

DICTIONARY  
OF THE  
ISLE OF WIGHT DIALECT.

**A.**

A is pronounced broad and long, and is generally used instead of the pronoun " he."  
"A zed a should hay zum on't by next Zadderday,"—He said he should have some of it  
by next Saturday.

AATER. After. Aafternoon—afternoon.

AATERCLAPS. Something disagreeable happening in a matter which is considered  
Settled.  
"I don't want noo aaterclaps."—I don't want anything after this: let the matter be ended.

AILS. Beards of barley; as Barley ails.

ACT. To behave or speak in an affected manner, to play tricks.  
"Dedn't he jest about act, and make hisseif zote!"—Didn't he behave in an affected  
manner, and make himself look silly!

ADONE. A command to stop or cease.  
"Adone, I tell 'ee."—Cease, I tell you."

AFEARED. Afraid, frightened.  
"I be afeared to go annearst un."—I am afraid to go near it.  
"Be not *afeared*, the Isle is full of noises."  
—*Tempest*. iii. 2.

AGEN. Against.  
"He vell agen it" --He fell against it. "To run up agen" anything or person — To meet  
with it casually or by chance. "I shall run up agen 'en one of these days. "—I shall meet  
with at some time or other.

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AGONE, or AGOO. Ago, since.  
"Tes dree year agoo now this zummer zunce we lived at Rue Street."—It is three years  
ago now this summer since we lived at Rue Street.

ALL OF A HOOGH (the *hoogh* guttural). Out of shape, or place; nfl on one side.  
"That ere wut rick is all of a hoogh."—That oat rick is out of shape, or all on one side.

ALLZIDES. All together, every one.  
"We be gwyne to begin dreshen allzides to-morrow mornen." We are all going to begin  
threshing to morrow morning.

ANNEARST. Near.  
"Don't goo annearst the mare, she med fling at ye."—Don't go near the mare, she might  
kick you.

ANEWSE. Very like; much, or very nearly the same thing.

"I was down at varmer Vlux's yesterday, you, and zid that gurt Sall Jooans there. She *do* goo on, I can tell 'ee, jest as if she was missus. D'ye think the wold man's married to her?"

"I dunno, but I louz 'tes anewse the saame, you."

ANJUR DOGS. Andirons, at the sides of a hearth to support the logs, and with hooks for the spit to run on.

APPLESTUCKLEN. A small apple pie or tart, baked without a dish.

ARENEST. A small sum of money paid down to bind a bargain.

"I paad 'en ten shillens in arenest vor the pigs."—I paid him ten shillings to bind the bargain for the pigs.

ASH. A stubble field, after the corn has been cut and carted.

"Bwoy, drave the cows out into the wheat ash. "—Boy, drive the cows into the wheat ash.

ASPRAWL. Sprawling.

"A was zo drunk, a yell out o' the chair all asprawl bout house. "—He was so drunk, he fell out of the chair sprawling on the floor.

ASTROUT. Stretched out stiffly, as frozen linen.

"My vingers be all astrout wi' the coold."— My fingers are stiff with cold.

ATHERT. Across, athwart.

"Be you gwyne athert to-day?"—Are you going across [the water to Portsmouth or Southampton] to-day? "The hare run right athert the ground."—The hare ran straight across the field.

3

AUVERDROW. To overthrow, to upset

"He auverdrode the waggon gwyne down the shoot."—He upset the waggon going down the hill.

AUVER-RIGHT. Opposite.

"A used to live auver-right wold Chessel's, out at Banger's Whjstle."—He used to live opposite old Chessel's, at Banger's Whistle.

AVORE. Before.

"I shall be there avore you. "—I shall be there before you.

AYOORD. To afford.

AX. To ask or inquire, to publish the banns of marriage.

"He axed me to litter-up vor'n."—He asked me to put the straw bedding under the horses for him. "I zay you; Bob Gubbins and Poll Trot was *axed* in Atherton Church last Zunday."

AZEW. Dry, not giving milk.

"The cows be all azew."—The cows give no milk. "I went up to varmer Baker's to zee if I could git a drap o' milk to make a traykel posset wi', for the wold dooman's coold. 'Noa,' a said, 'I wants moor milk than I got vor the pigs, ver near all the cows be gone azew.'"

## B.

**BAAKS.** Spots in an arable field not properly ploughed.

**BACKSIDE.** A farmyard behind, or close to, the house.

“Playse Mister Newman, father toold me to come up and ax you if you’d lett’n putt hes keert into your backside till to-morrow mornen.”

**BACK UP.** To support anyone by money or influence.

**BACON RACK.** A frame hanging from the ceiling of the kitchen of a farm house, on which smoked hams and bacon are kept

**BADGER.** To tease, to importune anyone.

**BAD OFF.** To be poor, in a state of poverty.

“They be miserable bad off: I louz ‘tes terbul hard does wi’em” —they are very poor: I imagine it is very bad times with them

**BAILEY.** A farm bailiff, a sheriff’s officer.

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**BALLYRAG.** To abuse or vituperate, to use scurrilous language.

“Dedn’t the wold dooman gimme a ballyraggen !”—Didn’t the old woman abuse or scold me!

**BANNICK.** To beat, or knock about.

**BARGAN.** A small farm or property; often a house and garden.

“He got a small bargan in Niton parish.”

**BARGAN ZADDERDAY.** There were three of these,—” Vust, Middle, and last Bargan Zadderday,”—being the three Saturdays immediately before Old Michaelmas Day, Oct. 11th; and they were the fixed times for hiring yearly farm servants. Fifty years ago, hundreds of male and female farm servants, in their best attire, flocked into Newport on these Saturdays from all parts of the Island: it was their annual fête days; the women assembling at “Gape Mouth Corner,” opposite the Vine Inn, and the men taking their station in the “Beast Market “ After hiring themselves, and settling the locality of their next year’s service, with hats bedecked with ribbons they crowded the dancing rooms of certain well known and popular inns, as the “Red Lion,” the “Lamb,” and above all, “Bell Chamber” where soon the fun and dissipation became fast and furious; quarrels arose; and rivals, to settle “who was best man,” adjourned to “Trattle’s Butt” to fight it out; and a scene of riot and boisterous revelling generally concluded each “Bargan Zadderday.”

**BARROW PIG.** A young boar castrated.

**BATTER.** To dig or scrape furiously, with small effect; the action of a fowl in cleaning itself.

**BATTS.** Short ridges, odd corners in ploughed fields.

**BATTLEDOBE.** A child's first primer, containing the alphabet, numerals, &c., on thick coarse paper, made to fold; generally sold by pedlars.

"You shall not neede to buy bookes, no, scorne to distinguish a B from a Battledore."—  
Gul's *Horne-booke*, 1609.

**BAY.** An obstruction in the course of a ditch or small stream, so as to form a pool.

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**BEAT UP.** State of being, or health.

"How d'ye sim to beat up, mayet?"—How do you do? or, How are you getting on?

**BECALL.** To abuse, to call had names.

"He becalled me everything he could think on."

**BEEAST.** Oxen, cattle.

"Bist thee gwyne to sar the beeast, Jack?"—Are you going to feed the cattle, Jack?

**BEE BUTT.** A beehive.

**BELT.** To beat or thrash.

"I'll gi' ye a middlen belten predney. "—I'll give, you a severe beating presently.

**BELVE.** To bellow as a bull, to roar when beaten.

**BEN.** Been; also, a bin for corn.

"Take the ziv off the wut ben, wull'ee you, and drow'n into the hull coop. "—Take the sieve off the oat bin, will you, and throw it into the "hull coop" [*which see*].

**BETHWINE.** Wild clematis, or convolvulus.

**BEYAST.** To put the dripping on meat roasting; also, to beat.

"I'll gi' thee a good beyasten as soon as we be out end."—I'll give you a good beating as soon as we get to the end of the furrow, or field.

**BIDE** (*Ang.-Sax. bidan*). To abide, stay, or dwell.

"He bides zumwhere about Keasbrooke. "—He stays somewhere in Carisbrooke.

**BILLHOOK.** A short-handled curved wood chopper, used by hedgers, and for domestic use.

**BILLUS.** The bellows; also, to pant after hard running.

"Comin up that shoot ded gimme a billusen, I can tell 'ee." —Coming up that hill quite winded me, I can tell you.

**BILLY BITER.** The blue titmouse.

**BINDER.** A large quantity (generally of food).

"We had liver and crow vor dinner, and I ded take in a shan't want noo moor grub to-day."—We had pig's liver for dinner, and I ate such a lot that I shall want no more food today

**BITTEL.** A wooden maul or very large mallet, used in cleaving Wood or “tying out” horses; when used in driving stakes in making a hedge, called a “stakebittel.”

“I left my stakebittel out in the ground last week, and the zun’s ben and warped ‘en all to pieces.”—I left my stakebittel out in the field last week, and the sun has split it all to pieces.

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**BIVVER** (*A.S. bifian*). To flicker, to quiver; also to tremble or shake.

“I could see the lightnen bivveren about in the element.”— I could see the lightning flickering or flashing in the sky. “I sims all of a bivver wi’ the cooald. “—I tremble or shake with the cold.

**BLACKTHORN WINTER.** A second or short winter, a week or two of cold weather occurring, in the early spring.

**BLARE.** To bellow, to low as a cow, to cry.

“The wold dooman went sniffen and blaren about the plaace, like a wold cow that’s lost her calf.”

**BLEYADS.** The shafts of a cart or waggon.

**BLOODSTICK.** A small and short, but thick, wooden stick, used to strike the lancet (fleyams) when bleeding cattle.

**BLOW OUT.** A good feed, a very full meal.

“Dedn’t they there teetotallers hay a blow out yesterday; I heerd my wold woman zay she dranked zixteen cups o’ tay.”

**BODY HOSS.** The horse in the team nearest the “thiller,” or horse in the shafts.

**BONE.** To swagger in walking, to swing about.

“He bomed into church as if he was Lord Holmes.”

**BOMESWISH.** To ride or drive fast.

“I met wold varmer Taalor and hes missus in their new pony keert, gwyne bomeswish over Staplers.”

**BONNYGOO.** Lively or spirited.

“That’s a bonnygoo hoss o’ yourn, varmer, “—Thats a spirited horse you have, farmer.

**BOON STAG.** An old boar, castrated.

“Last week wold butcher Smith come up to our plaace, and a zed, ‘Hav’ee got ar a calf to zill?’ ‘Iss,’ I zays, ‘I have, but he’s onny dree days wold.’ ‘Never mind that,’ a zed; zoo be bought’n. ‘Well,’ I zays, ‘I spooase you’ll putt’n to another cow, won’t ye?’ ‘Noa I shan’t,’ a zed, ‘I sholl kill’n. I be gwyne to kill a wold boor stag, and I sholl make ‘em booath into sassages; pork and veal, ye know, makes the best o’ sassages.’ ‘Lar a massy!’ I zays, ‘I’ll never yet noo moore sassages as long as I be alive; noo veal dree days wold, nor noo tough wold boor stag, vor me.”

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**BOTHER.** A difficulty, a disturbance.

**BOTTOM.** The valley or hollow between two downs.

“There’s a good many rabbits, you, about Vairney Bottom, t’other side o’ Gallibury Bump.”—“Vairney” or Ferny Bottom is a remarkable depression in a “bottom” of the

downs between Calbourne and Shorwell; and "Gallibury Bump" is an ancient tumulus on the top of Newbarn Down.

**BOUT HOUSE.** On the floor, or on the ground.

"Don't dro the things bout house. "—Don't throw the things on the floor. "I was gwyne along out handy Lake one time, and I met wi' wold Juniper, as we used to call'n, crucklen along the side o' the road. 'Hollo, Juniper!' I zays, 'thee doesn't look as if thee couldst auver dro a mill pond to-day;' and I'd noo zuoner spoke than he up vist, and I vound myzelf bout house."

**BOWLDISH.** A wooden bowl with a handle.

"There goes 'Will Morris, wi' his hear cut round as if he'd putt the bowldish on his head."

**BRAKE.** A rough uncultivated piece of ground.

**BRASH.** Rash, impetuous.

"Dont'ee be too brash wi' that staff hook."

**BREED.** To plait.

"I was in the steyabul, zet down on the wut ben, breeden the thong of a whip, when I heerd a miserable buster up in bote."—I was in the stable, sitting on the oat bin, plaiting the thong of a whip, when I heard a great noise in the loft above.

**BREN CHEESE.** Bread and cheese.

"Let's hay a bit o' bren cheese, you."

**BRET OUT.** Corn very dry at harvest time, so that the grains fall out of the ears or husks, is said to "bret out."

**BREYAVE.** Brave, fine, or good.

"Goo and galley the ducks out o' gearden, there's a breyave bwoy. "—Go and drive the ducks out of the garden, there's a good boy.

**BRICK REEL.** A brick kiln.

**BRISH.** A brush.

"Hanner, Hanner, hast thee bolted the shoe brishes? I can't vind 'em. "—Hannah, Hannah, have you swallowed the shoe brushes? I can't find them.

**BRISH OVER.** To jump nimbly over anything, as a gate.

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**BROCKS** (*A.S. brecan*, to break). Fragments or scraps of victuals.

"Wull ye hay zomethin to yet? But there, we onny got a vew brocks left from dinnertime to offer ye."—Will you have something to eat? But we have only a few fragments left from dinner to offer you.

**BROODY.** A hen wanting to sit on her eggs is said to be "broody."

**BROOKLIME.** *Veronica beccabunga*, water speedwell.

**BRUCKLE.** Brittle.

**BRUSSELLS.** Bristles, the hair of a pig.

"I met wold Cooke tother day, comen up vrom shore wi' a gurt thornback in his hand.  
'Ah!' a zed, 'I be mortal fond, you, of a good thornback.' 'Well,' I zays, 'I don't keer vor  
sich things; gimme a good bit o' brussell-back, that's the tackle vor me."

**BUDGE.** To stir, to move.

"I can't budge 'en a inch."—I can't move him an inch.

**BUFFLE HEADED.** Thick headed, stupid.

"He's a gurt zote bufifle headed sort o' feller."—He's a great foolish, thick headed kind of fellow.

**BUGLE** (*Lat. buculus*). A young or wild bull. A common sign of inns in the Island, and seldom to be seen elsewhere. The bugle, or wild bull, was the supporter to the arms of Henry Beauchamp, Duke of Warwick, crowned King of the Isle of Wight by Henry VI. in 1443 ; and this probably was the cause of its adoption as a sign by the local vintners. At present, in most of the signs the bull's horn, or bugle, is substituted for the bull.

**BULL'S EYES.** A coarse sweetmeat, made of boiled sugar flavoured with peppermint.

**BUNCH.** A swelling caused by a blow.

**BUNDLE OUT.** To turn out, to start anyone off quickly.

"Come, look sharp, bundle out here!"

**BUNNY.** A small covered drain, or culvert, generally in front of a gate at the entrance to a field.

**BUTT.** A small meadow, or enclosure of land, generally near the house; probably deriving its name from being used for archery practice in old times.

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**BUTTERVINGERS.** A clumsy or unskilful person, who lets things fall or slip from his grasp.

"Hold on too'n, wold buttervingers."—Hold on to him, old butterfingers.

**BWOY.** A boy.

**BWOYLEN, THE WHOLE BW0YLEN.** The whole lot or number, all of anything.

"The hool bwoylen lot on 'em viow out o' doors. "—The whole of them ran or rushed out of doors.

## C.

**CAA.** To chatter or cry like a rook or jackdaw.

**CAG.** To insult, to offend.

"I've ben and cagged en now, I louz."—I have offended him now, I think.

**CAGMAG.** Bad or stinking meat; also, coarse, uncultivated, mongrel bred.

"I wouldn't hay sich cagmag in a gift. "—I would not have such bad meat if given to me.  
"Tes a gurt cagmag sort o' hoss."—'Tis a great mongrel bred kind of horse.

CALL. Necessity, reason for.

"There's noo call vor thee to do that. "—There's no necessity for you to do that.

CALLARDS. Leaves and sprouts of cabbage.

"I *do* like a bit o' bwoyled ham wi' zum callards."

CAMMICK (*A.S. camoc*). Almost any plant with a yellow flower, as St. John's Wort, Ragwort, &c.; but properly Rest-harrow, *Ononis arvensis*.

CAMMICKY CHEESE. Cheese made from milk flavoured with rest-harrow, giving it a strong, rank taste.

"I went over to wold Drudge's wi' a load o' faggots, and when I'd unloaded he axed me to hay zummut to yet and drink; but ony gid me zome fousty bread dree weeks wold, and a bit o' wold cammicky cheese. I couldn't show to't, zo I come left it; a med yet it hissef if a likes."

CAPPENDER. A carpenter.

"I'll zing you a new zong, that layetly has ben maade;  
'Tes of a little cappender, and of a pretty maade.  
I have a vancy vor you, you goos zo neat and trim;  
But oh, my-little cappender, what will become of him?"

—*Old Song.*

10

CAR. To carry.

CARRY. Vexed or annoyed.

CARRIAGE OF CORN. A load of ten quarters.

CASN'T? Can you not? Can't you?

"Casn't zee't?"—Can't you see it? "Why casn't doo't?"— Why can't you do it?

CAT'S CRAADLE (sometimes SCRATCH CRADLE). A game played with string by children.

CAVIL. Refuse of wheat after threshing, used as food for horses.

CRAW. To be sulky. to be continually nagging or complaining.

CRACKLE. To cackle as a hen.

CHAM. To chew, to cogitate sullenly or morosely.

"The pigs a ben and chammed my smock frock all to pieces."—The pigs have chewed my smock frock all in holes. "He keeps on chammen on't over. "—He is continually ruminating on, or bringing some annoying thing to mind.

CHARM. People talking confusedly together; a loud chattering of persons or fowls.

"'Twas jest like a butter market charm. "—'Twas just like confused and mingled sounds of the butter market. "Don't they fowls kick up a charm."

CHEESES. Seeds of the mallow (*Malva Sylvestris*), often picked and eaten by children.

CHEERUP. To chirp, to cry as a young bird.

CHEQUERS. The game of draughts.

CHID LAMB. A female lamb.

CHILLBLADDER. A chilblain.

CHILLED. Cold.

"I aim quite chiled."—I feel quite cold. "To take the chill off anything. "—To slightly warm any liquid, to place anything for a short time by the side of the fire.

CHIM. The projecting rim of the head of a cask or barrel.

CHIMBLEY. A chimney.

CHINE (*A.S. cyne*, a chink). A cleft or ravine in the cliff, formed by the action of running water; as at Shanklin, Blackgang, Brooke, and other places in the Island.

CHINKERS. Chinks, fissures.

CHIPPER. To speak rapidly, or in an excited manner; also, to be impertinent.

"I heerd 'em chipperen. '—I heard them talking. "Don't let's hay nooan o' yer chipperen here. "—Don't let us have any of your impertinence.

CHITLENS. The entrails of a pig, cleaned and plaited together.

CHIVY To chase or pursue anything.

"We've had a fine chivy aater'n. "—We have had a fine chase after him.

CRIRELE, To cheat or swindle.

"He chizzled me out on't. "—He swindled me.

CHOCK. To choke.

"I be zo dry, I be prid near chocked, you. "—I am so thirsty, I am nearly choked.

CHOCK-DOG. Isle of Wight cheese; or any eatable, very hard or tough. Isle of Wight cheese—sometimes called "Isle of Wight Rock"—is made from skimmed milk, and by keeping becomes exceedingly dry and hard. It is related that a cheese being sent to someone at a distance as a present, the recipient, not for a moment suspecting it was anything meant to be eaten, with great difficulty cut a hole through the middle of it, fitted it up, and used it for a grindstone with success.

"Wold Jem Cooper over at Brison went one day on a arrant to Yafford, and when a was there Missus axed 'en if a would hay a bit o' bren cheese and a drap o' beer. 'Iss, I wull, think'ee missus,' zays Jem; zo they brought'n zome bren cheese and beer; but Jem zet and looked at it, and ded'nt offer to begin. 'What's the matter, Jem?' zays Missus, 'ye got what ye wants, han't ye?' 'Noa, not quite, missus,' zays Jem, 'I wants the billhook to cut the cheese wi'.' Jem never got noo bran cheese there noo moore aater that."

CHOPPEKIN. The chap, or under jaw of a pig, salted and smoked.

"I minds 'twas one Vriday when wold Lilly come about the clock, cause we had a choppekin that day vor dinner."

CHUB or CHUBBY A small freshwater fish, the miller's thumb or bull-head.

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CHUCKLEHEADED. Stupid, thick headed.

"What bist about there, chucklehead?"—"What are you doing there, chucklehead?"

CHURN. The entrails of a calf.

"I be gwyne to Athervell to git a caave's churn to-morrow."

CLAA. To seize or take hold of anything.

"Claa hold on't, you."—"Catch hold of it. "I claad hold be 'en by the collar. "—I seized him by the collar.

CLAMS. A kind of vice or wooden pincers, used by shoemakers and saddlers, to hold the leather between their knees while sewing.

CLAPPER-CLAA. To scratch.

"The wold dooman ded clapperclaa 'en proper. "—The old woman did scratch his face well.

CLAP. To put or place.

"Clap it down there, you.' "—Put it down there.

CLAP. A half—door, a trap-door, the shutter of an unglazed window in a barn or stable.

"Open the clap, wull'ee; I wants to putt the haay up in lote avore rack-up time."

CLAP KNIFE. A clasp knife.

CLAPS. A clasp.

CLEEAN. Clean; also quite, entirely.

"He drowed a stooan cleean droo winder. "—He threw a stone quite through the window.

CLEM. St. Clement, the tutelar saint of the blacksmiths, commemorated Nov. 23rd.

"The blacksmiths be gwyne to keep up Clem to-morrow night, you; they've zended to Yarmouth vor a pound o' powder."

On the evening of Nov. 23rd, "Clem" was kept up by the blacksmiths and their friends "firing" their anvils, till all their "powder" was expended, when an adjournment was made to sonic neighbouring alehouse, and the day was concluded with songs and festivity.

CLENTED. Clinched, as nails.

CLACK. To tick, as a watch.

CLIDERS. Goosegrass.

CLINK. A smart blow; also, to strike.

“Wold Jerry did jest about clink into’n. “—Old Jerry did beat him smartly.

CLINKERS. Refuse, cinders, Sic., of a blacksmith’s forge.

CLITTERBALLS. Pieces of mud or clay sticking to the hides of horses.

CLOT. A clod.

“He took up a gurt clot and flung at me.”

CLOUT. A blow.

“I’ll gi’ ye a clout in the head, my nabs, when I meets wi’ye.” “Ye’ll git yer years clouted predney, ye young wosbird.”

CLUTCHED UP. Sitting very close in a corner.

CLUTCHED BIN. A hen sitting on eggs.

“I zay, you, our Dick’s hen and veil into the sheepwash, and come hooam all drillen wet. A won’t show to noo vittles, and a zets hunched up in chimley corner like a wold clutched bin.”

CLUTTERS. Part of the tackling of a plough or harrow.

COATHE (*A.S. cothu*, disease). A disease of the livers of sheep, from feeding on wet lands.

“That sheep’s coathed, I can zee.”

COB. To beat anyone on their posteriors. This jocular punishment is seldom used but during hay and harvest time, when for some offence against the rustic code—such as helping himself to more food than he can finish, or drinking more than his proper allowance—one of the labourers is sentenced to be “cobbed” by his fellows, who are both judges and executioners. The culprit is seized, and held in such a position as to fully expose hid buttocks to castigation, which is generally administered with a boot,—six or twelve blows being given, according to the gravity of the offence.

COBNUT. A. large kind of filbert, or any large nut.

COCKSETTLE. To turn head over heels, to throw a somersault.

COMPOSITION. A material used by bakers instead of yeast.

COOKEY BAABEY The arum; sometimes called “Lords and ladies.”

COOP. A prison.

“He’s in coop.”—He is in prison.

COTTERUL. The hook to which the put or kettle is hung over the fire.

COUNT. Worth, importance.

“He’s noo count at all. “—He is of no importance, not worth consideration.

COUCH. Creeping wheat grass (*Triticum repens*), collected in heaps and burnt.

COWLICK. A tuft of hair on the forehead, which will not lie in the same direction as the rest of the hair.

CRAA. The crow or crop of a bird; the bosom or stomach.

CRAPZICK. Sick from over eating or drinking.

CRAYDEL. A bow of wood or iron fixed to the sned of a scythe, to lay the swathe regular.

CRIB. A child's bed; a receptacle for the food of cattle.

CRICKET. A small three-legged stool for a child.

CROUSTY. Morose, ill-tempered, crabbed.

"The wold man sims terbul crousty this mornen."—The old man is very ill-tempered this morning.

CRUCKLE. To bend or stoop in walking, to hobble.

"There goes wold Bucket, crucklen along wi' two sticks."

CRUMPLED. Crooked; also, rumpled or creased.

CRUMPLEN. A small apple, with a wrinkled rind.

CUCKOO SPET. The white froth on leaves, covering the larva of the *Cicada spumens*.

CUE. The semicircular piece of iron on the heel of a hoot.

CUMMY. Bread turned mouldy, in hot weather generally.

"The poor bwoy was maade to yet cummy bread, till the dust vlow out o' the corners of his mouth when a chowed it."—The poor boy was forced to eat mouldy bread, till the dust flew out of his mouth as he chewed it.

CUP. A cry to bring cows home.

CUTTEN KNIFE. A large triangular shaped knife, Used with both hands, to cut hay from the rick.

CUTTY. The Kitty wren (*Troglodytes vulgaris*).

## D.

DAA. A jackdaw.

DAB. A blow; also, to stick, or smear anything.

DABSTER. An adept, a proficient, a skilful person.

"You're a dabster at it."

DACK. A blow or stroke; also, to touch or stroke gently, to anoint.

"I'll gi' thee a dack wi' the prongsteel if thee doesn't mind."—I'll give you a blow with the prong handle if you don't take care. "My vinger is miserable bad, missus; jest dack en vor me, wull'ee. "—My finger is very painful, missus; just anoint it for me, will you.

DAFFYDOWNDILLIES. Daffodils (*Narcissus*).

DAPS. An exact likeness.

"She's the very daps of her mother. "—She is exactly like her mother.

DARN. A kind of oath, a clarified d—n.

DEAD HOSS. To work on a "dead hoss" is to do work, the - payment for which has been received and spent; to work out an old debt.

DEADLY. Very, extremely.

"I be deadly fond o' apple pudden, you."

DED. Did. "Ded'st ?"—Did you?

DEFFER. To differ, to disagree.

"We agreed to deffer about that job. "—We disagreed about that matter.

DENT. A hollow mark made in the surface of anything by a blow.

"That bwoy's ben an' dented the taabel wi' the hammer."— That boy has made a hollow on the table with the hammer.

DERECKLY MINNET. This instant, at once.

"If thee doesn't come down from therence dereckly minnet, I'll take a rice and drap into thee ready to cut thee all to pieces"—If you don't come down from there this instant, I'll a stick and beat you very severely.

DESPURD. Very, exceedingly.

"That's a despurd good mare o' your'n, varmer."

16

DEVIL'S DANCEN HOURS. Midnight.

"My wold man's gone to Nippert, and if there's a fiddle gwyne anywhere, I shan't zee'n hooam till the devil's dancen hours."

DEVIL'S GUTS. The dodder plant.

DEWBERRY. The largest kind of blackberry.

DEWBIT. A piece of bread and cheese taken by labourers early in the morning, before beginning work, in hay or harvest time, while the dew is on the grass, an hour or two before breakfast.

DIBBLE. To make holes for planting seeds or potatoes.

"I've jest dibbled my taeties in, you."

DICK. A game of touch-and-run among children.

DIDO. A disturbance or row; an eccentric freak.

"He kicked up a middlen dido about it. "—He made a great disturbance about it.

DILL. A word to call ducks.

DISCOOUS. Converse, discourse.

"I dedn't hay noo discoous wi'en. "—I had no conversation with him.

DISHWASHER. The wagtail.

DISMOLISH. To destroy, to break in pieces.

DOCK. The plant *Rumex*. Its leaves are sometimes used to wrap up fresh butter.

DOGGED. Very, excessive.

"He's dogged cute, you,"—He's very sharp, or knowing.

DOOMAN. A woman; generally preceded by "wold," as 'my wold dooman.'

DOOR DARNS. The side posts of a door.

DOUGHBAKED. Silly, of weak mind, half-witted.

"He's a kind o' doughbaked sort o' feller."

DOUGHNUTS. Round cakes about the size of a cricket ball, made generally of the same ingredients as a cake, but boiled in lard instead of being baked.

DOUT. To extinguish, as a candle or fire.

17

DOWNARG. To contradict, to browbeat, to silence by overbearing assertions.

"He very nearly downargd me out o' my own neyam. "—He very nearly argued me out of my own name.

DOWSE. A blow; also, to splash, or throw water over anyone.

"If thee bisn't off sharp, I'll gi' thee a dowsen. "—If you are not quickly gone, I'll throw some water over you.

DOWST. Dust.

DRAA. To draw.

"Last Whit Monday aatnoon, yon, I went into Nippert to me a bit o' the Fair vor a nower or two; and I'd jest got auverright the Hare and Hounds when I aid a wold feller in a long smock frock at a stannen by the corner, a zillen cheese. A had a gurt rammel cheese under his yarm, and when a zid me stop a stuck a taaster into the cheese and holded it out agen me. 'Teaste,' a zays, 'wullee.' 'Noa I won't,' I zed too'n, 'thee onny wants to *draa me in*, but thee bisn't gwyne to.' Zo I zaamerd downalong a little vurder, and went into the Lamb,"

DRAG. A large kind of harrow.

"We lie gwyne draggen in zix acres to-morrow mornen."

DRAP IN. To beat, to strike.

"If thee doesn't mind, I'll drap into thee with the whip predney. "—If you don't take care, I'll beat you with the whip presently.

DRANGWAY. A narrow passage between two houses.

DREE. Three.

"I louz 'tes about dree o'clock, you. "—I think it is about three o'clock.

DRESH. To thresh.

"We be gwyne to Buccombe this aaternoon aater the dresh machine. "—We are going to Bowcombe this afternoon for the threshing machine.

DRESHEL. A threshold.

"This gurt pig zays, 'I wants meeat;  
T'other one zays, 'Where'll ye hay et?'  
This one zays, 'In gramfer's barn;'  
T'other one zays, 'Week!  
Week! I can't git over the dreshel.'"

—*A Nursery Jingle, used in catching or counting children's toes.*

DRETTEN. To threaten,

DRILLEN. Dripping with wet.

18

DRINE. A field drain.

DRINEN. Draining, the work of digging a drain.

DRIP. A trap to catch mice or rats. To "set a drip" is to take a piece of board about six inches square, and fix a nail in two opposite corners of it; then place tins piece of wood (the drip) in the corner of a room infested by mice or rats, where two shelves meet, fixing it by the nails at the corners so as to make an almost perfect balance. A tub or large pan three parts full of water is placed directly under the *drip*, and the bait is put on the corner of the *drip* furthest from the wall. The rat or mouse, in trying to reach the bait, overbalances the *drip* and falls into the water beneath; and the *drip*, if properly set, falls back into its original position, ready for another victim.

DRO. To throw.

"Pro it down bent house. "—Throw it down on the floor.

DROAT—HAPS. A leather strap that goes under the lower part of a horse collar, to hold the "*Haames*" together.

DRO IN. To carry sheaves together to be put in "hile" at harvest time.

DRUG. Damp or moist; also, heavy.

"That shower's made the haay rather drug, you." "Hollo, meyat! the roads goos deuced drug to-day, I sim. "—Hollo, mate! the roads are heavy travelling to-day.

DRUSS. A descent in the road, or slight slope.

DRYTHE. Thirst, drought.

DUBERSOME. Doubtful, anxious.

"He sims terbul dubersome over it. "—He seems very doubtful about it.

DUCKEST. Twilight, the dusk of the evening.

DUCKSTOOAN. A game played by boys, in which a small stone is placed on a larger, to lie thrown at ; and the first that knocks the stone off its support cries " duck," and is considered winner for that time.

DUFFER. A pedlar, or hawker of tea, cloth, or ready—made clothes, who sells "on tick," and calls on his customers about once a fortnight.

19

DUMBLEDORE. A large humble bee.

DUNCH. Dull, deaf, hard of hearing.

"The wold man's got quite dunch lately."

DUNGMEKEN. A dunghill.

DUNGPOW. A heavy two-wheeled cart for carrying dung.

DUNNICK. A hedge sparrow.

DWYES. Currents, eddies.

## E

EATH or YEATSH. Earth.

EACE. A large earthworm.

ELLUM. Elm; also, a handful or layer of straw, prepared for thatching.

EMMET. An ant.

"I say, you, summer's come,—here's a emmet."

EMPT. To empty anything, to pour out

"Look sharp and empt the willey, meyat."

EMER. A long flexible piece of underwood—generally hazel, making, when twisted or wattled round stakes, an *ether hedge*; also, a rod for chastisement.

"The wold man's aater'n wi' a ether. "—The old man is seek for him with a rod.

EVVET (A.S. *efeta*). The eft or newt.

EX. An axle.

## F

FAGGED OUT. Very tired or weary, done up.

FAGGOT. A term of reproach or rebuke used to young girls.

"Come here, ye young faggot!"

FAIR DOOS. Fair dealing, equal or fair treatment.

"What cheer you; how bistgitten on?" "Oh, I be middlen; how bist thee?" "Oh, fairish, do'st know." "Have ye settled wi' Jobber Snow vor the shoots 'it ?" "Well, not quite, you; I got to gi'n vout sacks o' tacties, and then 't wool be about fair does boooth sides."

20

FALL. The Autumn, the time of the leaves falling.

FEND OFF. To defend oneself, to keep anyone off.

FIGGY PUDDEN. A plum pudding.

FIRK. To be in a continual state of fuss or fidget; also, to scratch.

"That dog keeps on firken vor vleys. "—That dog is continually scratching for fleas.

FIST. Progress, satisfaction, success.

"He'll never make noo fist on't. "—He'll never have any success with it.

FITTEN. Right, suitable, proper.

"To my mind it don't sim fitten. "—In my opinion it is not suitable.

FIT OUT. A commotion, a disturbance; an outcome or upshot.

"There was a fine fit out over it, you. "—There was a great disturbance about it.

FLANYER. To flourish or brandish.

"He's out there by the barn door, flanyeren about wi' a sparrod."

FLEYAM. An instrument or lancet of an arrow—head shape, used to bleed cattle.

FLITCH. Wheedling, insinuating, plausible.

"He was terbul Hitch wimme over it. "—He was very insinuating, or wheedling, with me.

FLICK. The fat on the inside of a pig; a slight blow; an attempt or trial at anything.

"Let's hay a bit of flick to fry the liver wi'." "Gi' that hoss a flick wi' the whip, wull'ee you.

"—Give that horse a stroke with the whip, will you. "They be gwyne to plaay at vore corners vor a ham, at Braaden, Whit Monday, you; I louz I shall goo and hay a flick at it.

"—They are going to play at skittles for a ham at Brading on Whit Monday; I think I shall go and have a try at it.

FLICKEN COMB. A large— toothed comb.

Hannah was combing John's hair one Sunday morning with the "flicker comb," and, the hair being rather thick and matted together, the operation was too much for John's nerves, so he exclaimed, "Do stop, Hanner! doan't do noo moore too't thee makes me vlesh crawl upon me boans.

21

FLING. To throw; also, to kick, as a horse.

"Fling a stooan at'n." "Mind the wold mare don't fling at ye, meyat. "—Be careful the old mare don't kick you.

FLOP. To fall down flat.

"She come indoors and flopped down in a chair." "I vell down bout house flop. "—I fell flat on the floor.

FLOWER KNOT. A small ornamental flower bed.

FLUE. The nap or down of anything.

FLUSTRATION. A scare or fright.

"It putt me into a regular flustration about it,"

FOGO. A disagreeable smell, a stink.

"What a fogo! Drave that dog out o' doors."

FOOTEREN. Idling, trifling, busy about nothing.

"He hen footeren about there dooen nothen all the mornen."

FOREST HOUSE. The House of Industry, or Workhouse for the Island, established 1770-75; so called from being built on land forming part of Parkhurst Forest.

A labourer quarrelling with another said to him, "I'll tell'ee what 'tes, ye light-a-vire rogue, I shall zee thee gwyne up Hunnyhill to Forest House one o' these days, wi' thee shoes down at heel."

FOREST HOUSE PUDDENS. Puddings made of flour and suet, which were supplied to the inmates of the "House" for dinner on Saturdays, and containing neither raisins, currants, nor sugar, were not held in much estimation. At a tumultuous meeting in favour of Reform held in the Corn Market, Newport, in 1831, some farmers from Gatcombe who were vehemently opposed to the popular cause were saluted with derisive cries, "Dree cheers vor the Forest House puddens." One of them in surprise asked, "Why be we Forest House puddens?" "Because ye ha'nt got no raisins (reasons) in ye" was the answer.

FOUSTY. Mouldy, mildewed, musty.

FRAAIL BASKET A basket made of rushes, used by labourers to carry their food.

"IZay, you, what's think? I jest met that gurt voreright Moll Young, trayepsen along wi' the mouth on her wide open, like 'a fraail basket hung up by one handle."

"You have pickt a raison out of a *fraile* of figges. "—*Lilly's Mother Bombie*, 1632.

22

FRESH. Half drunk; also, new or strange.

"I see varmer Lock's got a fresh keerter. "—I see farmer Lock has got a new carter.

FUNCH. To push or thrust

"Don't keep a funchen me so."

FURRED-UP. Encrusted.

"This here skillet is all furred-up, missus."

FURL. To throw, to toss anything over.

"I'll send thee furlen if thee comes anearst me."

## G.

**GAAK** (A.S. *goec*). To look at anything eagerly; to stand and stare about in a silly manner.

**GAB**. Unnecessary or useless talk.

**GALLANEY**. A guinea fowl.

**GALLUSES**. Braces. "Gallus buttons."—Brace buttons.

"Come here, Betty, I wants thee to sow on one o' my gallus buttons vor me."

**GALLY**. To scare or frighten, to drive away.

"Tell the maad to gally the cows out o' rickus. —Tell the maid to drive the cows out of the rickyard.

**GALLY-BAGGER**. A scarecrow, a figure set up in a field to scare away the birds.

**GAMBREL**. A spreader; a curved staff, used by butchers to hang carcasses on by the tendons of the hocks.

**GAP**. To jag or notch; also, a breach in a hedgerow.

"What a gurt gap he's maade in my knife —What a great notch he has made in my knife! "There goos the pigs, right over the gap into Vive Acres. —There go the pigs, through the breach in the hedge into Five Acres.

**GARBED-UP**. To be dressed in singular or uncommon manner.

"I was gwyne to Cheal last Zunday aaternoon, you, and 'long there by West Zide I run agen wold Spanner, garbed up like a wold gallybagger.'

**GAULLY**. Thin or bad, applied to spots in a field where the crop has failed.

"That's a gaully piece o' wuts you got there, varmer. —That's a thin, or poor, field of oats you have, farmer.

**GEARDEN**. A garden.

"I be gwyne out in gearden to git zum callards vor dinner."

**GA** (*g* hard). To give. Past tense—"gid."

"Take and gee'n zum on't. —Give him some of it.

**GEE OUT** (*g* hard). To give up, to knock under; to break by use.

"The keert roop's gid out, meyat. —The cart rope has broken.

**GEEAM LIG** (*g* hard). A lame or diseased leg.

**GEEAT** (A.S. *geat*). A gate.

**GENGE**, or **PLOUGHGENGE**. The depth of the furrow.

"I must alter my genge when I gits out end. —I must alter the depth of the furrow when I get to the end of the field. " The rat eddn't gone into the ground not ploughgenge deep 'it."

**GIDDYGANDER**. The purple or meadow orchis.

GLOAT. To look intently, to stare.

“He gloats like a stuck pig.”

GLUM. Dull,, gloomy, out of spirits, sullen.

“The wold dooman es terbul glum this mornen. “—The old woman is very sullen this morning.

GLUTCH. To swallow, to gulp down.

GODS A MIGHTY’S COW, or sometimes LADY COW. The ladybird, *Coccinella septem punctata*.

GOOGLE. Shaking, oscillating, tottering.

“That taabel is all of a goggle, missus. “—That table oscillates shakes, missus.

GOO; also, the style or fashion. “Head goo.”—The top or best.

“That’s all the goo now.” “That’s the head goo on’t all.” — That’s the best, or climax, of it all.

GOOSEBERRY WIFE. A large caterpillar, a bogey to deter children from picking the gooseberries.

“If ye goos out in the gearden, the gooseberry wife’ll be sure to ketch ye.”

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GOOSEBERRY. “To play old gooseberry.”—To make a great disturbance or commotion.

“If I tells meyster I vound ye pinnen hes turmet greens, he’ll plaay wold gooseberry wi’ ye. “—If I tell master I found you stealing his turnip greens, he will make it very uncomfortable for you.

GOOSEGOGGS. Gooseberries.

GOOSER. An upshot, or end of anything.

“It’s a gooser wi’n this time, I louz. “—It’s all up with him this time, I think. “If he don’t git droo now ‘twill be a gooser.”

GOUND. A gown.

GRAAINS. Remains of malt after brewing, used to feed pigs.

GRABBLE. To snatch, or grasp roughly.

GRAFTER, or GRAFTEN TOOL. A spade of concave shape, used in digging drains.

GRAMMER. An old woman, a grandmother.

GRANDFER. A grandfather.

GRANDFER LONGLIGS. A large fly, or gnat, with long legs and wings, of the class *Diptera*.

GREEN LINNARD. A green linnet.

GRIP (*A.S. gripan*). A handful of wheat newly cut.

GRIPPEN. Binding wheat into sheaves.

"All our yokes be up in Pound Close grippen, this aaternoon; there's nobody at hooam but missus."

GRISKEN. A fresh pork steak.

"We be gwyne to kill our pig a Friday, and we shall hay zum grisken vor dinner Zunday, you."

GRIST (*A.S. grist*). Corn sent to the mill for grinding, and the flour which comes back.

GROANEN TIME. The time of a woman's accouchement.

"I louz 'tes groanen time wi' 'em at Duckmoor, you; the keerter told me missus expected to fall to pieces this week."

GROUND. A field.

"Where's ben to, you?" "Oh, I ben out in the ground aater the roller."

GROUND ASH. An ash sapling, growing from the ground.

25

GRUB. Food, eatables, victuals.

"Let's hay zum grub, missus, as zoon as ever ye can, vor I be as hungered as a hoss; I veels quite lear. "—Let us have something to eat, missus, as quickly as you can, for I am as hungry as a horse; I feel quite empty.

GUDGEONS. Round pieces of iron fixed in the ends of a roller, by which it runs in its frame.

GUMPSHUN. Ingenuity, common sense.

GURT. Great.

## H.

HAAIN up. To preserve or lay up grass land.

HAAM (*A.S. healm*). The stalks of plants, the haulm; as, "bean haam," "pease haam," "taety haam," &c.

HACKER. To stammer.

HACKLE (*A.S. hæcele*, a cloak or mantle). The feathers of a cock's neck; the straw roof over a bee hive. "To show hackle."—To prepare, or to be ready, to fight; from a cock erecting his "hackle" or neck feathers when about to fight.

HAGLETS. Icicles.

HAGGLER. One who buys poultry and eggs, to sell again; an upper farm servant, who looks after his master's horse, and the stock on Sundays.

HAMMER AND TONGS. "To go at it hammer and tongs."— To quarrel or fight furiously.

HAND. A part or share.

"I was toold he had a band in it."

HANDS. Men, assistance, or help.

"Tell meyster we wants zum moor hands, else we shan't top up the wheeat rick to-night."

HANDSEL (A.S. handsyllan,). The first money taken in the day, or for the first part sold of anything.

HANDY. Skilful, clever; also, close or near to.

"Plumley es a very handy wold feller." "I louz 'tes handy one o'clock, meyat."—I think it is nearly one o'clock, mate. "Putt the ladder handy to me, wull'ee you."

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HANDSTAFF. The handle of a flail, to which the "zwingel" is fastened by a thong.

HANG-GALLUS. Fit for the gallows; one that ought to be, or is likely to be, hanged.

"Oh, he's a hang-gallus rascal."

HAPETH. A halfpenny's worth.

"That chap's a bad hapeth. "—That fellow is good for nothing.

HAPSE (A.S. hæps,). A hasp.

HARD. Strong, big.

"He's a gurt hard bwoy. "—He is a big, or strong, boy; "hard" being the opposite of tender in a child.

HARD DOES. Hard or bad times.

"'Tes miserable hard does wi' 'em, yon. "—It is very bad, or poor, times with them.

HARD PUDDEN. A pudding made with flour only, and boiled and eaten with meat.

HARL. To be knotted or entangled; also, a general confusion.

"The keert roop es all harled up. "—The cart rope is altogether entangled. "I went over to Tinker's Laane yesterday to gi' Jim a spell vor a yew hours, and I never vound things in sich a harl in my life: he'll make a party zet out on't avore a done wi' et. "—I went to Tinker's Lane yesterday to relieve, or help, Jim for a few hours, and I never found things in such a confusion in my life: he will make a pretty mess of it before he finishes it.

HARLENS. The hock joints of a cow or heifer.

"The wold cows got stuck in the keert loose up over their harlens."—The old cows got stuck in the cart ruts above their hocks in mud.

HARPER. To be continually talking on one subject, to importune, to pester.

"She keeps on harpen me vrom mornen to night."

FLASH. Hasty, impetuous, severe.  
“Don’t ye be too hash wi’ that colt.”

HASLET. The liver, lungs, and heart of a pig.

HASSICKS. Tufts of coarse grass, rushes, or sedges.

HATCH. To tear or slit anything by catching it on a nail, or some projecting object.  
“I’ve maade a middlen half hatch in my breeches, meyat, gitten over that wattle hurdle.”

27

HATCH ON. To yoke horses to the plough or harrow, &c.

HATCHED UP. To be walking arm-in-arm, as a courting couple.  
“A Zunday a two ago I was out at Whiteley Bank, you, and I met Bob Smith and wold Tom Cooper’s maade, gwyne along hatched up, and looken as zote as two gurt mud caaves together.”

HAY. Have.  
“Let’s hay’t, you.”—“Let me have it.” “Will ye hay a bit o’ bren cheese?”—“Will you have some bread and cheese?”

HEADLEN. Headland, the part of the field nearest the hedge, at the ends of the furrow, where the horses turn in ploughing.

HEAL (*A.S. hēlan*). To cover. To “heal in” corn or potatoes—to cover them with earth; to “heal in” a rick or house—to cover it with thatch, &c.

HEELTAPS. Liquor left in the bottoms of glasses after drinking.  
“Don’t leave noo heeltaps. “—Empty your glasses.

HEFT. Weight; also to lift anything, so as to try the weight of it.  
“Jest heft it, wull’ee you. “—Just lift it, so as to feel the weight of it.

HET. To hit; also, heat.  
“Hullo, mayet, thee looks prid near shrammed, casn’t ketch hot this mornen?”—“Hullo, mate, you look very cold, can’t you got warm this morning?”

HEYAMS. Pieces of wood fitted to the collars of horses, with staples to which the traces are fastened.

HEYATH. The hearth, or fireplace.

HIDEN. A beating.  
“ Won’t I gi’ thee a hiden when we gets hooam.”

HIGHTY TIGHTY. An exclamation, generally used to naughty children.  
“Highty tighty, two ‘pon a hoss, what be ye squinnying about here.”

28

HIKE OFF. Begone, be off with you, used generally in a contemptuous sense.

HILE. A double row of sheaves, generally 12, set up in the field ready for carting.  
“The wheeat in Corner Close es all up in hue.”

HO (*A.S. hogian*) To long for, to be anxious; also, to be cared or provided for.  
“I don’t ho vor’n, I can tell ye.”—I don’t long for him, I can tell you. “Tes a good job the poor wold dooman’s hoed vor now.”—It is a good thing the poor old woman is cared, or provided, for now.

HOBBLE. Trouble or difficulty; also, to tie the legs of an animal to keep it from straying.  
“He’s got hisself into a pretty hobble.”—He has got himself into great trouble.

HOBLERS. Sentinels or watchers at beacons, in the Island, mounted on hobbies, or small horses, whose duty was to give the alarm on the approach of art enemy.

HOBNAILS. Broad-headed nails for boots.  
“When I used to be Haggler at Athervell farm, there was a gurt bufflehead chap about there that used to go vor arrants, we used to call’n ‘Trayklehead.’ A was gwyne into Nippert one day, and Missus zed to’n,—’ Goo into Way’s and bring me zix poun of cracknels back wi’ ye.’ Well, by the time ‘Trayklehead’ got into town, he couldn’t mind where he had to goo vor the cracknels, zoo he goos into a iremonger’s, and axed vor zix poun o’ *cracknails*. The man looked at ‘en and zays, ‘We don’t keep noo nails of that naame; do ye mean *hobnails*?’ ‘Noa,’ zays Trayklehead, ‘she zed *cracknails*, but I spooase t’others ‘Il do, zo let’s hay zix poun on em.’ Bimeby back a comes, and zays, ‘I zay Missus, they hadn’t got noo *cracknails*, zo I brought ye zix poun o’ *hobnails*; I louz ‘tes anewse the saame thing.’ “

HOCKS. Feet.  
“Don’t putt thee gurt hocks up agen me.”

HOG. A sheep a year old.

HOGAILS. The berries of the white thorn.

HOLD WI’. To side or agree with, to support an opinion.  
“He holds we the hare, and runs we the hounds.”

29

HOLDVAST. A word used in the hay and harvest field, as a signal to the horses to move on, and for the man on the load to hold on.

HOOAM HARVEST. A farm supper and merrymaking at the end of harvest.

HOOAST. A host, a large number.  
“There was a hooast o’ people yesterday at the cricket match at Hulverstone.”

HOOK. To strike or gore with horns, as a cow or bull.  
“Mind the weld cow don’t hook ye.” “Hook out.”—To pick or draw out anything from a crevice or shell.

HOOPIE. The game of hide and seek played by children.

HOPED UP. Perplexed, troubled.  
“She es terbul hoped up over it.”—She is very much perplexed or troubled about it.

HOSS. A horse.

In a team the shaft horse is the "thiller," the next before him the "body hoss," then "lash," "next to vore," and the first, the "vore hoss." "They don't sim to hatch bosses together noohow. "—They don't at all agree or coincide in opinion.

HOSS STINGER. The dragon fly (*libellula*).

HUFF. To breathe hard, to puff and blow.

"Gwyne up hill makes me huff."

HOT. Hasty, passionate.

"Ye can't zay a word teen, but a gits as hot as a Brisoner" (i.e. a native of Brighstone).

HULLS. The husks and refuse of corn after winnowing, used to feed horses; wheat bulls are the best for fodder. "Wut hulls" are sometimes used instead of feathers for beds.

HUNCHED up. Shrunk in size, shrivelled; also, shrinking or cowering.

"A zets by the vire, nose and knees together, hunched up like a bundle o' weld rags."

HUNK. A large solid piece of anything eatable.

"I cut 'en off a gurt hunk o' pork and bread, and a zet down and scoffed the lot in vive minutes. "—I cut him off a large piece of pork and bread, and he sat down and ate it in five minutes.

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HURDLE SHELL. Tortoise shell, generally used of colour.

"I say mayet, talk about cats, I got zummet like one now, a hurdle shell one, you. I war'nt she es a good one: she'll ketch birds and yaller hammers; but the wust on her es, I vound her up top o' taable in the dish o' pork and turmet greens left there over night, when I come down stairs in the mornen. I up wi' my skitter boot and let drave at her, and bet her sich a clink by the side o' the head, and knocked her down as dead as a rat; she onny went kick, kick, a yew times, and never moved a wag aaterwards; but when I come hooam at night, there she was, zetten avore the vire as if nothen was the matter we her."

## I.

IDLE. Saucy, wanton, flippant.

"That maade is jest about idle: she wants taken down a peg or two."

IGG. An egg.

INN. To enclose, now almost obsolete.

"The first part of Bradinge Haven wase *inned* by Sir William Russell, owner of Overland, at ye tyme when Yarbridge wase *made*."—*Oglander MSS.*

INNERDS. Entrails.

"Varmer Dore's gwyne pig killen to-morrow, and we be gwyne to hay one o' the pig's innerds."

INYUNS or INEYUNS. Onions.

IRE. Iron.

"Pick up that bit a' ire under hedge there, mayet."

IT. Yet.

"Es it one o'clock it, you?" "He eddn't vive year wold, nor it near."—He is not five years old, nor yet near it.

As an example of the antiquity of some of the provincialisms used in the Island, and how little they have changed,—in the MSS. of Sir John Oglander, written over 250 years ago, "*it*" is invariably used for *yet*.

## J.

JAA. A jay, sometimes called "pranked jaa."

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JAANT. A journey, a long walk.

"The pigs got out o' the ground into the road, and went all up to Blackdown. I've had a middlen jaant aater 'em: I can hardly wag."

JACK-A-LANTERN.—Will o' the wisp, the *ignis fatuus*.

JACKASSEN ABOUT. Occupied with trifles, busy to no purpose.

"I went down to Mill aater the grist, and 'twuddent ground, 'cause there was noo water; and then I went over to wold Brown's to ace if he had rung the keert wheels, but he was gone to Rookley, shooen; zo I ben jackassen about like that all the mornen."

JACKDAA. A jackdaw.

JAKKHEYARN. A heron.

JACKRAG.

"Every jackrag on 'em's gone, you."—Every single one of them is gone.

JANDERS. The jaundice.

"I met we wold Gladdis last Monday, you, and a toold me his wold dooman had the yaller janders miserable bad."

JAW. To scold, to find fault with, to naggle.

"I must be off hooam, else I shall git a middlen jawen."— I must be off home, or I shall get a good scolding.

JEE. To fit, to agree, to get on well together.

"They don't sim to jee together noohow."—They don't get on well, or agree together at all.

JEEAD. A jade, an old mare.

JEST ABOUT. Very, extremely, completely.

"He jest about ded slip into 't, mayet."—He did go at it, or into it, vigorously. "He jest about es a gurt feller, I can tell'ee."—He is a very big fellow, I can tell you. "Wold Warder danced a hornpipe in the Vive Bells t'other night, and a ded it jest about well."

JIFFY. In a moment, a very short time.

"He was off in a jiffy."

JIPPER. Juice, or syrup of anything, as of a pudding or pie.

"Mind what thee bist dooen wi the skimmer, thee'st lat all the jipper out of the pudden."

JOBBER. A cattle dealer.

JONNICK. Fair, all right, as it should be, trustworthy.

"He acted very jonnick about it."

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JOLTERHEAD. A heavy, dull, or stupid fellow.

"When I used to be keerter at Messon, a good many years ago now, I had a gurt jolterheaded bwoy vor mayet wi' me; a was a regular zotey. One day a was gwyne into Nippert vor zummet or nother, and weld meyaster zed too'n, 'Call in at buttcher Lock's and bring back a lig of mutton wi' ye.' Zo away a went and got t'other zide o' Blackwater, and then all at once a swealed round, a back a come as hard as a could pelt. 'I zay meyaster,' a zed, 'which be I to bring, a vore lig or a hind one?' 'Thee tell buttcher Lock what I zed to thee, and 'twull be all right,' rays weld meyaster, 'thee bist about as clever as Betty Moorman's caaf, what run dree mile to suck the bull.'"

JORUM. A large cup or jug.

JOSKINS. West countrymen who come to the Island for work, at turnip hoeing time and harvest.

JOURNEY. A day's work at plough, or at anything else with a team of horses.

## K.

KECK. To retch, or heave as if sick.

"That ere stuff makes me keck."

KECKHORN. The windpipe, generally of an animal.

KECKS or KEX. A dry stalk of hemlock or cow-parsley, sometimes pronounced "kecksy;" also, wild plums or sloes.

"Tes as dry as kex, you."

KEEASKNIFE. An ordinary table knife.

KEEAVEN. Separating the corn after threshing from particles of straw, &c.

KEEAVEN RAKE. A rake with long teeth, used in" keeaven."

"We must slip into't, you, vor I wants to begin keeaven up."

KEEL. A kiln.

KEERAT. A cart; also, to carry anything in a cart or waggon; to cart.

KEERAT LOOSE. A cart rut.

"The heffers got stuck in the keert loose up to their harlens."

KELTER or KILTER. Order, condition.

"We be all in middlen kelter this mornen." "I zid Varmer Jaacob's team last Zadderday, you; he jest have got come nice hosses now, and all in good kelter. He got a black un naamed Punch, he es a fine hoss, and a regular good un to pull."

KETTLE CAP. The purple orchis.

KEYS. Pods, or seedvessels, of the ash, maple, or sycamore.

KIDS. Pods of pease, beans, and vetches.

"My peas es out in kid fine, you." "Your beeans have kidded uncommon well."

KINDY. Rather.

"I sims kindy queer this mornen."—I feel rather unwell this morning.

KING. Much, a good deal.

"It's a king better now than it used to be."

KINK. To twist or crease, to be entangled.

"The roop es all of a kink. "—The rope is all twisted. "Kinked up like a snake."

KITE BOUGHS. The dead boughs of trees collected for fuel.

"I ben over to Coomley, you, and got a bundle o' kite boughs.

KISSENCRUSTS. The imperfect crusts of loaves which have stuck together in baking.

KITTLE O' FISH. A result, a mess, a bad state of affairs. (Properly *kiddel*, a dam or weir in a river to catch fish.)

"Thee'st meyd a pretty kittle o' fish on't."

KNAP (A.S. *cnæp*). A small hillock, the brow of a hill.

KNITTLES. Strings for tying the mouths of sacks.

KNOCK OFF. To finish, or leave work.

"Hullo mayet, how d'ye like this weather ? Blowed if don't raain as if it hadn't raained avore this dree year." "O you, it don't stop to raain, it valls down; I shall knock ad and goo hooam."

KNOWNUTHEN. Stupid, ignorant.

"He's a gurt voreright, knownuthen sort o' feller."

KURN. To turn from flower to fruit.

"My appletrees have kurned very well this year."

## L.

LAA. Law.

LAAYER. A lawyer.

LACK. To want or need.

LANTERN JAAS. The jaws of a thin, bony person.

LARBETS (*testiculi agnorum*). Larbets fried or in a pie, are, by some, considered a delicacy.

LARRAPEN or LERRAPEN. Loose made, shambling; also, a beating.

“Here comes wold Tom, larrapen along the road.” “Thee’st get a lerrapen, if thee doesn’t look out.”

LATTER LAMMAS. Behind and slow.

“He’s a terbul wold fashioned latter lammas bwoy. —He is a very old fashioned, slow boy.

LARRANCE. An imaginary being, whose influence causes indolence; a pseudonym for laziness.

“I can’t git up mayet, vor Larrance got hold on me.” “He’s got Larrance on his back strong to day.”

LAY. Pasture land, or recently mown clover field; also, relative positions of places.

“That’s a nice bit o’ clover lay there, you.” “I knowed I couldn’t be vur out, by the ‘lay’ of the country.”

LEAZEN (*A.S. lesan*, to gather). Gleaning, after the wheat is carted.

LENA. A calf’s stomach; rennet, used in making cheese.

LEBB’N O’CLOCK. Eleven o’clock, an allowance of beer taken at that time of day, during hay and harvest time.

“Hollo mayet! ‘tes about time to hay our lebb’n o’clock, edden’t ct?” Oi you, let’s hay the puncheon, and I’ll tip it out.”—Hollo mate! it’s time to have our eleven o’clock beer, is it not? Yes, hand me the puncheon [a small keg] and I’ll poor it out. “I worked one time, you, long wi’ wold Ben Whillier down in Lingewood lower Brickyard. One Vriday when we got paaid vor the month, we vetebed some beer vrom the New Inn, Shaaflet, and had some on’t; but we dedn’t stop to drink it all then, but left a vore gallon jar vull till the next mornen vor lebben o’clock. Wold Ben had to stop in the keel all night to keep the vire up, zo we left the jar wi’ he, and went hooam. Next day when we went vor our drop o’ beer, we vound the jar outzide the keel, turned upzidown, zo we axed wold Ben where the beer was gone to. ‘Well,’ a zed, ‘aater you was gone I had a rid herren vor me supper, and et maade me terbul drythy all night, zo I jest supped up that little drop ye left.’”

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LED. Laid; also, a lid.

“Putt on the pot led: zee how the roke vlees out o’ the pot.” —Put on the pot lid: see how the steam flies out of the pot.

LEDGERS. Rods fastened by “spars” to keep the thatch on a rick.

LEEF or LIEF. Soon.

“I’d as leef goo as not”

LEER. Void, empty, wanting food, a craving or empty stomach.

"I got up one moroen, and walked vrom Freshwater to Nippert on a leer stummick, you.'  
"I louz tes ver' near dinner time: I veels quite leer."

LENCE. The loan of anything.

"I shall be glad to hay the lence o' yer bucket vor a nower or two, missus."

LEATHER. To beat, to thrash.

"Wold Squibb ketched me one time up in hes apple tree, and didn't he gim'me a leatheren: I han't forgot it vrom that day to this."

LEVVERS (*A.S. læfer*). The great yellow flag, or its leaves; the Iris.

LEVVER BASKET. A basket made of "levvers," or coar rushes.

LEW (*A.S. hleo*, shelter). Shelter from the wind, the *lee* side.

"I was zet down, you, the lew zide o' the hedge, and I heerd zomebody scuffen along the road, zo I looks droo hedge and zid twas wold Joe Sargent. A had zummet in his hand, zo I zays too'n, 'Hlollo Joe! what's got there?'—' Oh,' a zays, 'I jest ben and ketched a faddikin.'"

LEWTH. A sheltered spot from the wind.

"Let's git into the lewth."

LEYACE. To beat.

"I've a good mind to leyace thee jacket vor thee. "—I have a good mind to give you a sound beating.

LIBBETS. Rags, tatters

"I tore my smock frock all to libbets gwyne droo copse."

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LIG. A leg.

LIGHT-A-VIRE. An abusive term.

"Thee bist a reglar light-a-vire rogue, *that's* what thee bist."

LIMMER. Limp, pliable, easy to bend.

LIMLESS. All to pieces, smashed.

"Git out o' the way, or thees't be knocked limless."

LINCH (*A.S. htlinc*). A strip of copse, by the side of a piece of ploughed land, generally on the side of a hill.

LINNARD. A linnet.

LITTER. Straw. To "litter up."—To put the bedding under the horses for the night.

"Light the candle, mayet, 'tes pretty nigh half aater zeбен, and let's goo and litter up."

LIVER AND CROW. Pig's liver, &c., fried; pig's fry.

"I say you, don't the liver and crow smill jest about good, it makes my mouth water; 'tes about the best part of a pig I likes."

LOB TAW. A large marble.

LOCK. A small quantity of hay or straw, an armful.

LOGEY. Heavy, dragging, generally used of a burden.

LOLLOP. To walk in a shambling or lazy manner.

LONG. In consequence of, because.

“‘Twas all long o’ he that they done it.”—’Twas because of him that they did it.

LONG DOG. A greyhound.

LOP SIDED. One side heavier than the other, all on one side.

LOR A MASSEY. Lord have mercy,—an exclamation of surprise or impatience.

“Well, Betty, how be ye? I was up your way last night, and looked in, but you wudden’t at hooam.” “Noa, I was gone to hear the paason lecturer about planets and stars, and the world gwyne round like a top, and a lot more on’t; but Lor a massey, I don’t take it all in. For jest look’ee, and I’ll tell’ee vnr why. You knows we be here at Motson now: why, while be talken we should be over at Kingston, or Godshill, or somewhere afore now, if the world keeps on gwyne round as vast as he zed it do. “Twon’t do vor me: I bean’t quite fool enough it to believe all that.”

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LORDS AND LADIES. The arum macalatum.

LORE. A loft over a stable.

LOUNDER. A swinging blow.

“I gid ‘en sich a launder, and beeat ‘en down bout house.”— I gave him such a blow, and knocked him down on the floor.

LOUBTER. A sudden loud noise.

“The door veil down wi’ such a luster, et maade me jump.”

LOUZ. To think, suppose, imagine, to be of an opinion.

“Deds’t thee ax Jan about that ere, you?” “Iss, I ded, and a zed a louz ‘tes about right now; and meyaster zed he louz ‘twull do very well. “—Did you ask John about the matter? Yes, I did, and he said he thought it was about right now, and master said he supposed it would do very well.

LUCK. A pool of water left among the rocks by the receding tide.

LUCKEY. Probably a corruption of “look ye;” also, morose, sulky.

“I zay, come here, ‘lucky.” “He sims to be lucky about zummet or nother. “—He seems sulky about something.

LUG. To pull or haul.

“I claaed hold bee’n and lugged’n nut on’t.”—I caught hold of him and pulled him out of it.

LUG. A pole in land measure, 5½ yards.

LUGWORMS. Worms used for bait in fishing.

LUMPER. To strike the foot against some obstacle, to stumble.

LUMPY. Heavy, weighty.

"That hamper es rather lumpy; jest heft'n."—That hamper is rather heavy; just lift it.

LURRY. Balderdash, loose talk.

"He ded goo on wi' zome pretty lurry, I can tell ye."

## M.

MAA. The maw, or stomach of an animal.

MAAMOUTH. A silly talking, stupid person.

"There, onny look at her ; ded ye ever zee sich a gurt zote, maamouthed thing as she es?"

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MAD. Angry, in a rage.

"Dedn't the wold dooman git mad and yoppel at me."— Didn't the old woman get into a rage and scold me.

MAG. A mark, or stake, to throw at; also to scold, or naggle continually.

MAGGOT. A whim, caprice, or fancy.

"The head on un es vull o' maggots."—His head is full of whimsies, or crotchets.

MAGGOTTY. Whimsical, crotchety, fond of experiments.

"What a maggoty feller that Will Chiverton es, you. He tarred his pig's back all over t'other day, cause a zed 'twud keep the raain out on 'en the better."

MAKE UP. To coil up, as a rope.

"Make up the keert roop, you, avore it gits in a harl."

MALLARD. A male duck, or drake.

MALLISHAG. A large caterpillar, generally found in cabbage.

"I ben out in geardeen to cut a cabbage or two vor dinner, but they be very near all spwiled, and vull o' mallishags."

MALLUS. The common mallow, *Malva Sylvestris*, often called "mash mallus," from being used for poultices.

MARE'S TAILS. Light, streaky, flying clouds.

**MARINERS** (*Fr. merelles*,). A rustic game, formerly called *Nine men's morris*, and as old as the XVI. century (see Shakespeare, *Midsummer Night's Dream* ii. 2). It is played on a board by two persons, with nine pegs or stones each, and each player endeavours to place his pegs or stones, in straight rows of three, at the intersections of the lines on the board, without the intervention of any pegs of his opponent. The board is often seen cut in the lids of corn bins in stables, and formerly was

sometimes found of larger size cut in the turf on the downs, by shepherds. "Fox and geese" is a somewhat similar game, but played with more pieces, and more intricate moves.

MARVUL. Marble, or a marble.

"Let's hay a geeam o' marvuls,"

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MAYET (mate). A common form of address; the carter's mate, or assistant.

"Hullo, mayet, how bist gotten on?" "Oh tolloll, you, think'ee; how bist thee?" "Oh, I be all right up to now, mayet."

MED. May, or might.

"I med a ben there if I'd minded to. —I might have been there if I had cared to.

MEEAD. A meadow.

MEALY-MOUTHED. Plausible, deceitful, hypocritical.

"I can't come alongside that wold feller at all, he's too mealy.mouthed vor me."

MEN. An expletive of contempt or defiance.

"Thee bisn't gwyne to frighten me men, I beant afeared un thee."

MENTS, or MENCE (A.S. *myntan*, to make up, or form).

Likeness, or resemblance, to represent.

"The bwoy mences like his father."

MERRY. The common black, or wild cherry (*prunus avium*), probably from the French *merise*. "Marries" used to be very plentiful in the Island, and several places are now called "Merry gardens," in different parts of it.

MESH. A run through a hedge made by a hare ; also, a marsh.

"When I was liven at Bowner, there used to be a feller called Salter out ver' near every day droo the winter wi' a gun, in the meshes round Yarmouth. A hardly ever done a day's work, for work and he vell out zoon aater a was born; except now and then a'd do a job vor wold Billy Squires. A had one o' these gurt long duck guns, and a was a very good shot; and when a putt six or zebben baey pipes o' powder into her, and a half-apoun' o' shot, a'd kill everything a could see in the meshes wi'in half-a-mile,—or that's the yarn a used to tell; but I dedn't bleeve a word on't, cause I knowed a always was a miserable liar."

METHER (come hither). The word for horses to turn to the left.

MEYASTER. Master.

MEXON (A.S. *mixen*) A Dung heap.

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MICHE. To play truant.

"That bwoy han't hen to school to day; he's hen michen."

"Shall the blessed sun of heaven prove a *micher*, and eat blackberries?"—

SHAKESPEARE: *Henry IV.*, Pt. I., ii. 4.

MIDDLEMAS. Michaelmas.

MIFF. An offence, a slight quarrel or coolness between neighbours. To be "miffed."—  
To take offence at anything.

MILLER. A white moth, which flies in the twilight or candlelight.

MILT (A.S. *milt*). The spleen of a slaughtered animal.

MIN. Men.

MIND. To remember.

MINTS. Mites, small insects in cheese.

MINTY CHEESE. Cheese full of mites.

MISERABLE. Much, very, extremely.

"They hosses yet a miserable lot o' corn last winter."— Those horses ate a great deal of corn last winter. "Dost thee know Will Baker, you? he's a miserable gurt feller." "Fine mornen, you, edden't it?" "Oi, you, but 'twas a miserable rough night; dedn't the wind blow! I thought my chimley was comen down." Sometimes feelingly pronounced—" *miserabbls.*" "Hollo, you, how dost seem to beat up? I han't zid ye vor ever zo long." "Oh, I beant much on't; my faace ben terbul bad layetly; my teeth paains me zoo." "Ah, the toothache es *miserabble* bad, I knows that." "Oi, you, 'tes wuss than anything, I bleeve; and every now'n ten the wold stumps 'ill gee sich a jump, and prid near jump out o' me head."

MIZE. To ooze, or slowly discharge.

MOLL ANDREY. A merry Andrew, or mountebank.

MOLL WASHER. The water wagtail.

MONTH'S MIND. A good mind, or great inclination.

"I'd a month's mind to a knocked 'en down there and then."

"Month's mind" is a curious instance of a phrase dating from before the Reformation, surviving in common Speech long after its original meaning has been forgotten. The "month's mind" were masses said at a month after the death of a deceased person, for the repose of his

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soul; the word "mind" meaning memorial, or remembrance. A sermon of Bishop Fisher's, *tempore* Henry VITI., is entitled—"A mornynge remembrance had at the monthe's mynde of the most nobyl Prynces, Margarite, Countesse of Rychmonde and Darbye." The expenses of these services were suited to persons of all ranks, that none who desired them might be deprived of their benefit. In the Churchwardens' accounts of Abingdon, Berks, is the following, among other similar entries. "1556. Receyved att the buryall and monethe's myude of Geo. Chynche XXIIId." In the same year they received for the "month's mind" of the "goodwyfe Braunche, 12s. 4d." There were also year's, and two years' mind, observed.

MOONLIGHT BRANDY. Smuggled brandy.

MOOT. The stump of a tree left in the ground.

MOOT END. The stump, or tail end of a thing.

MORE. The grubbed up root of a tree.

MORGAN. The stinking camomile, *anthemis foetida*.

MORTAL. Very, exceedingly, excessively.

“Tes mortal hot to day, you, edden’t it?”

MOTE. A small piece, a morsel.

“There edden’t a mote on’t left.”

MOTHERY. Thick, applied to liquors, as beer, with mouldy particles floating in it.

MOUTHEY. Abusive, impertinent.

“He was terbul mouthey to me.” “Shet up, mouthey! that’s enough on’t; we don’t want nooan o’ thy slack here, and I bean’t gwyne to hay noo aaterclaps. I zold the rabbits to thee out and out, and thee’sst hay to stick to ‘em; zoo the best thing vor thee to do es to hike off hooam, or I med take zome o’ the rine off on thee.”

MOW. A stack in a barn, in distinction to one out of doors.

MOW-BURNED. Hay or corn put together before it is dry, and spoiled by heating.

MUCH. To stroke or pat, to make much of an animal.

MUCKEL. Refuse, or rotten straw.

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MUCK OUT. To turn, or drive, out.

“He was mucked out on’t neck and crop, sharp.”—He was turned out of it at once.

MUCKER. All over with, finished, hopeless.

“I louz ‘tes a mocker wi ‘en this time, you.”—I think it is all over with him tins time.

MUD. A silly, thoughtless person; generally applied to a child.—“ Ah, ye zote mud, don’t do that.” Also to pet, or cocker.—“ Don’t mud the bwoy up zo.” A “ mud calf “ or lamb is one brought up by hand.

MUDDLE HEADED. Confused, bewildered, or stupid.

MUDDLED. Stupid, half drunk.

MUDGETTY. Short, broken; as straw trodden by cattle.

MUGGY. Moist, sultry weather.

MUM. A louse, or any small insect.

MUMCHANCE. A shy or stupid person, who sits silent in company.

"A set there mumchanced up in the corner, and never zed a word, good, had, or indifferent, all the time a was there."

MUMMICK. To cut or carve food awkwardly or unevenly.

"Don't mummick that bread about so; why casn't cut it fair?"

MUMPOKER. A bogey, a term used to frighten or quiet children.

"If you don't gee off squinnyen, weld mumpoker 'ill come aater ye."

MUMMY. The dusk, or twilight, in the evening.

"Twas gitten mummy avore I come away, and 'twas so dark I could hardly see my hand avore me when I got to Apse."

MURREN BERRIES. The berries of the black briony.

MWOILEN. Working or toiling uselessly, to no purpose.

"If ye keeps en mwoilen there to Zatterday night, ye won't yarn yer salt. "—If you keep toiling there till Saturday night, you won't earn your salt.

## N.

NAAIZE. A noise ; also a scolding, or disturbance,

"Ther'll snra to be a naaize about it."

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NAB. To catch, or capture.

"He'll git nabbed one o' these days. "—He will be caught some time or ether.

My nabs."—A kind of expletive used in conversation, almost untranslatable; a certain person, you, he, himself.

"Now, my nabs, I've get a booan to pick wi' you."—I have a complaint, or, I want an explanation from you. "I lost my cross axe a week or two agoo, you, and I zomehow fancied where weld Jem White hadn't got 'en; I knowed a was grubben a hedge vor Varmer Trell, so I slips down along by the aide e' the hedge yesterday, and there I vound my nabs usen my cross axe, He zoon drapped'n when a zid me comen."

NAMMET. Refreshment taken in the hay or harvest field at four in the afternoon, consisting of bread and cheese and a pint of strong beer ; the "nammet beer" being older and stronger than any supplied at other times of the day.

"I zay, you, chuck us my nammet bag over here, wull'ee."

"If we don't slip into't we shan't git the wheat in hile by nammet time, mayet."

NANNY A she goat ; also, a prostitute.

NASHUN. Great, very, exceedingly ; also, a mild kind of oath.

"Twas nashun dark last night." "He's a nashun unbleeven bwoy." "Nashua saize you, git out o' the way !"

NEAR AS A TOUCHER. Very near, or close shave; a narrow escape.

NECESSARY HOUSE. A water closet, or privy.

NECK AND CROP. Altogether, entirely, completely.

NECKLE. A house, a dwelling.

NEDDY. An ass.

NEEDS. Forsooth, in consequence, to take an opportunity.

“Our keeter went to Cowes wi’ a looad o’ straw last week, and instead o’ comen back as quick as a could, a must needs a stop at the ‘Hess Shoe’ vor a nower or two, and come hooam dree parts slewed.”

NETTLE CREEPER. The small whitethroat.

NEWSE (see *Anewse*). “Newse” or “anewse the matter,” nearly right, or as it should be.

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NINETED (probably a corruption of anointed). Notorious, incorrigible.

“Don’t hay nothen to do we that feller, he’s a nineted rogue.”

NIGHT HAWK. A night crow, the goat sucker.

NIT. Not yet.

“What time es it, you ?” “Oh, ‘tedden’t one o’clock, nit near, it. “—It’s not one o’clock, nor near it, yet.

NITCH. A bundle of hay, straw, or wood; a burden, as much as one can carry.

“He can car a smurt nitch, I can tell’ee. “—He can carry a large sized burden.

NOOAN. None.

“Nooan on’t.”—Not any of it. “Nooan onts.”—None of us.

NOO HOW. Out of order, in no regular shape, after no pattern.

“That rick is maade noohow.”

NOO WAYS. Not at all.

“He’s noo ways given to drink. “—He is not at all inclined to drink too much.

NO WEHN. At no time.

NOR. None, not one.

“Es there ar one there, you ?” “Noa, I can’t zee nor one.”—Is there one there? No, I can’t see any.

NOT (A.S. *hnot*, shorn, or clipped). Without horns, as a “not cow,” a “not sheep.”

NOTHER (A.S. *nather*). Neither.

“You can’t jump over that geat.” “Noa, nor you nother.”

NOW-A-DAYS. The present time.

NUN. A piece or lump of anything, as a “nub o’ coal,”

“nub o’ sugar.”

NUSS TENDEN. Employed as a sick, or monthly, nurse.

NUT. The stock of a wheel.

"The waggon wheels got stuck in the keert loose up to the nuts."

45

NUTTEN. A donkey.

"A wold man by the neyam o' Carben lived at Chessell, onny he's dead now; and a used to drave a donkey keert about, aater a got too wold to do any more work. One day, gwyne along the road out by Tapnell, a met wi' a team, and they drove the waggon right into the donkey and keert, and beeat the poor nutten's voot off, zo a bad to be shot. The wold man was terbul putt out over it, but a thought a would goo to church the Zunday aater, vor a zed, 'I dare zay, now, the paason will praach about my poor wold nutten.' Now it zo happened that the lesson that Zunday was about Balaam and his ass, and the wold man was delighted. 'What a good sarmun,' a zed, when a got out o' church, 'I knowed the paason 'ud be sure to praach about my nutten, 'cause a was sich a good one."

O.

O BEN. An oven. "Oben rubber."—A pole with a cloth attached, to clear the oven of embers, before putting in the bread. "Oven peel."—A flat wooden shovel with a long handle, used to put in or take out the loaves from the oven.

ODD ROT IT. An exclamation of surprise or inipatience.

ODDS. Difference, consequence, business.

"What odds es it to you where I goos to?"—What business is it of yours where I go to? " 'Twull make no odds to me, let it be how 'twull "—It will make no difference to me, however it may be.

OFF. To be well or ill off, is to be well or hadly provided or furnished with anything.

How be ye off vor taties this year, you ?"—How are you provided with potatoes this year? "Joe's bad off, but his brother is very well off. "—Joe is poor, but his brother is in very good circumstances.

OS. Aye, yes. (The o pronounced like *au*).

"Prid near shet off time, edden't it, mayet?" "Oi, you."

ONE. Sometimes used for a.

"He kicked up the deuce o' one row about it."

OR ONE, AR ONE. One, ever a one.

ORE WEED. Seaweed washed on shore.

46

OUR'N. Ours.

"That staffhook under hedge es our'n, edden't it ?" "Oi, you, I louz tes."

OUT. To extinguish; sometimes, "dout." Out the light, wull'ee, you."

OUT AT ELBOWS. Offended, a disagreement.

"They be all out at elbows now."

OVERNER, or OVERUN FELLER. A person whose home is over the water, on the main land ; not a native of the Island. West countrymen, who come to work in the Island, are always " overun fellers," and regarded as foreigners by the natives. If they settle in the Island, gain any position, and are considered respectable, they are spoken of as "overun people."

"Had a miserable rough night, you." "Oi, you, 'twas a reglar Luccomer, last night." "I wish it had capsized they there overners, cornen across: what do they want over here, tryen to take the bread out o' vokes' mouths?" "If ar one on 'em zays ar a word out o' square to me you, I'll zwarrn into'n pretty sharp, I can tell'ee." "Oi, you, that's the right way to sar 'em."

OVERRODS. The overhanging rails on the sides of a waggon.

OVUS. The eaves of a rick, or thatched building.

PAAY. To pay ; also, to requite, to beat.

"I'll paay thee out vor that, my nabs, when I ketches thee."

PADDLE. A small spade to clean a plough; also, to walk or trample about in the wet or mud.

"There's that bwoy out doors, paddlen in the gutter: won't he make his clothes in a mess!"

PANK. To pant.

"How that dog panks under the table!"

PANSHEARD. A fragment or piece of a broken pan.

PEAKED'. Pale or thin in the face.

"She looks terbul peaked' to day."

PEEAS HAAM. The stalks, or haulm of peas.

PECK UPON. To domineer over, to keep under.

"I was pecked upon all the time I was there, and used wuss than a dog."

47

PECKY AND MIMFY. Delicate, out of sorts.

"That maade ben terbul pecky and mimfy vor zum time."

PEER. Equal, comparable; also, to melt or clarify lard.

"I never met we the peer too't."—I never met with its equal. "Tell missus to make a vew doughnuts; we be gwyne to peer the lard this evenen." (Doughnuts—which see—are boiled in lard).

PEEWIT. The lapwing.

PEGG OFF. To die.

"The wold man pegged off last night, you."—The old man died last night.

PELT. A skin, or hide ; also, a violent rage, or passion.

"I broke the blaades o' the waggon, yesterday, and didn't meyaster git in a pelt about it, and show off at me. "—I broke the shafts of the waggon, yesterday, and didn't master get into a passion and scold me.

Sometimes, also, quickness, or speed.

"I was looken vor a wire, when I zid the keeper comen athurt the ground, zo I jumps over hedge and went droo copse as hard as I could pelt: I was too many vor'n that time, you.

PEN UP. To shut up, or in; to confine.

"Goo and pen up the fowls, there's a good bwoy." "I sholl pen up that caaf next week, and begin fatten on 'en."

PICKEY BACK. To carry a child on one's back.

PIECE. A field of corn.

"That's a pretty' piece o' wuts you got there, varmer."

PILL. A pitcher.

"I zended my Polly to Newbarn aater zum milk, and comen back she veil down and broke the pill all to pieces: I gid nine pence vor'n onny last week."

PIMPLE. A head.

"Han't a got a pimple on 'en, you! prid near big enuff to vill a willey. "—Hasn't he got a large head! nearly big enough to fill a "willey" [*which see*].

PIN. To pilfer, to steal, to take clandestinely.

"Zomebody's ben down in orchard pinnen the apples." Hollo, you! where did'st get they cowcumbers?"—" Oh, I pinned 'em, comen along the road this mornen."

PINCH. A crisis.

"Its come to the pinch this time, you"

48

PINCHERWIG. An earwig.

"I zay you, I left soy clothes under hedge here, and now there's dree or your gurt pincherwigs craalen about in my dinner bag; hut I'll zoon settle their hash vor 'em."

PINEY. The peony.

PINNEY. A child's pinafore.

PIP. The *tues venerea*.

PISS-A-BED. The dandelion (*leontodon taraxacum*), so named from its diuretic qualities.

PITCH. The quantity of hay or straw, &c., taken up at once with a prong; also, to put or throw up hay or corn into a waggon.

PITCH IN. To set about a thing at once, to go at it instantly.

"Pitch in, mayet, and let's git this job done."

**PITCH UP.** To stand and talk, to form part of a concourse.

"I started that bwoy aater zum barm, and a was gone zo long that I went to look vor'n, and as zoon as I turned the corner there a was, pitched up wi' dree or vour more, all yoppelen away at one another; but I zoon putt a stopper to that; they vlow round the corner like scalded eats when they zid me."

**PITCHEN PRONG.** A long-handled prong, a pitchfork.

"I spooas ye don't mind Jan White, the fiddler, what used to live at Moortown, in Brison parish ;—but there, he was dead avore you was born. He was a miserable rum sort o' feller, and a used to zing in church one time. In the fall o' the year, one evenen, I was gwyne by his house, and 'twas raainen pitchen prongs wi' the vorks downwards; and there zet Jan on top o' the pig's house, in his shirt sleeves. 'Hollo, Jan!' zays I, 'whatever bist up to there?' 'Well, mayet,' a zays, 'I be tryen to ketch a good coold, zo I shall be aable to zing base in church next Zunday."

**PITZAA.** A large saw used in a saw-pit.

**PLAAY IN, and PLAAY SHARP.** To begin at once, to strike in, to be quick or nimble.

"While t'others were footeren about, he plaayed in, and had it out in noo time." "Now then, plaay sharp, off wi' ye."

**PLASH.** To cut the branches of a hedgerow nearly—but not quite—off, bending them down on the bank, and partially covering them with sods, so that fresh shoots may be thrown out."

"I shall have that hedge plashed next week."

**PLATTER.** A wooden dish, or trencher. Dishes made of pewter are usually called "pewter platters."

"We cleared off moost on't when we dinnere, you: 'twas vull bellies and empty platters."

**PLIM.** To swell, to expand in cooking.

"That bit o' pork'll plim in bwilen." "The ducks plummed up well in roasten."

**PLOCK.** A block, or log of wood.

"Let's putt a plock behind the vire, you."

**PLUCK.** The liver, heart, &c., of a sheep generally.

**PLUNGE.** To throb; a sensation of pricking or shooting.

**PLY.** To bend.

"I ben tryen to ply this bit o' ire, but I can't do't it."—I have been trying to bend this piece of iron, but I can't do it yet.

**POCKMARKED.** Marked with the small pox.

**POKEN, or POKEASSEN, ABOUT.** To go prying about; also, to fritter away time to no purpose.

**POLEHAPS.** A leather strap fastening the "haames" at the top of the horse collar.

POLLARD. Coarse bran; also, a trunk of a tree with the top cut off, sprouted again.

"I was gwyne athurt one o' varmer Starkes's grounds down at Flatbrooks one time, and I dedn't know the wold bull was there; but a was, and as soon as a ketchsed sight o' me a was aater me vull butt. I could run middlen smirt then, but I had a hard matter to git out o the way on 'en; however, I madee vor a pollard grown in the hedge, and climbed up into'n, and there I had to set vor a nowor or moore, till I was ver' near shrammed. The bull couldn't git at me, and I dedn't dare git down; vor a kept there, belven and tearen up the ground wi' his veet; till bimeby some o' the chaps come along that had shet off, and was gwyne hooam to dinner. I zung out to 'em as loud as I could, and two or dree on 'em come over and beared in athurt mister bull with the paddle and a gurt ether, and maade 'en turn taail, or I looz I should had to bid there till next mornen."

50

POOK(A.S. *peac*). To put hay or corn into heaps for carting.

Pooks."—Heaps of barley or oats, or hay-cocks.

POPPELSTOAN (A.S. *papolstan*). A large pebble.

POSTURE. To strike an attitude, to swagger.

"He was out posturen avore the winder jest to be looked at, maaken a reglar fool of hisself."

POT-LIQUOR. The water in which meat and vegetables have been boiled.

POWDEREN TUB. A tub to hold salt or pickled pork.

PRANKED'. Variegated, mottled, or speckled.

PRANKED' JAY. The common jay.

PRICKED. Sharp, slightly sour, as beer.

PRID NEAR. Very nearly.

"They prid near font over it, you. "—They nearly fought about it.

PRIDE O' THE MORNEN. A foggy, or drizzling, morning; often followed by a fine day.

PRITCHENEL. A small hedge stake.

"That wold granny Burt was crapen down the road this mornen, picken up sticks, and I'm dnaged if she han't pulled every pritchel out o' my ether hedge. Dash her wold boans, I wish I'd ketched her at it; she wouldn't a vorget et it awhile."

PROOF. Body, or fattening power, applied to food for cattle.

"There's zome proof in that clover haay, varmer."

PRONGSTEEL. The handle of a prong.

PROPER. Right, as it should be; also, very, exceedingly.

"That hoss is a proper good one to pull." "This tackle is about proper, mayet "—This eatable, or drinkable, is as it should be, or very good.

PUCKER. Trouble, vexation, perplexity.

He's in a terbul pucker about it."

PUD. A hand, applied only to children.  
“Come and warm your poor little puds. my dear.”

51

PUDDEN HEADED. Stupid, silly, thick headed.  
“Ded ye ever know wold Spanner, you? A used to live at the back o’ the Island, at a plaace called Whisselgray, or zummut like it, handy Cheal. Hes wife was a terbul zoat, pudden headed zort o’ woman, as thin as a rake; but there was noo harm in her. The wold man, you kuow you, had been bad vor a long time; zo one day a went into Nippert to zee the French doctor. The doctor zed to’n, ‘You must take keer a’ yerself, and drink jackass’s milk the vust thing in the mornen, or else ye med git into a decline.’ Zo a went off hooam, and toold his wife what the doctor zed. ‘Dear, dear,’ she zays, ‘what a zet out I our wold Jenny don’t gee no milk now, and I don’t vor a minute think we shall be able to git any.’ ‘ Well, there, zays the wold man, ‘the doctor toold me if I couldn’t git noo Neddy’s milk anywhere else, I was to come to’n agen, and he’d let me hay zome.’ ‘Lor a massy!’ zed his wife, ‘ye beant’t never gwyne to zuck the doctor, be ye?’”

PUMBLE VOOTED. Club footed.

PUNCHEON. A small keg, containing from three pints to a gallon or six quarts; used to carry beer into the fields in hay or corn harvest time.

PUNYEAR. To read or peruse a hook.  
“He’s indoors, punyareen over a book.”

PURE. Nice, good, well. “ Purely.”—Pretty well. (Not much used,—almost obsolete.)

PUR LAMB. (*A.S. purlamb*). A male lamb.

PURL. To turn swiftly round or over.  
“He purled round like a top.” “I putt a charge a’ shot into’n, and a onny purled over a time or two, and never moved aaterwards.”

PUSS. A purse; also, the scrotum of animals.

PUSSIKEY. A little, short, self—important, or conceited person.  
“She’s a reglar pussikey little bit o’ goods.”

PUTT TO. To be in a strait or difficulty, to be distressed.  
“He’s terbul putt to vor money jest at present.”

PUTT OUT. To be angry; also, to fret over misfortune.  
When I toold’n about it, lie simmed a good deal putt out.”

PUTT UP To stop for refreshment, or take quarters for man or horse at an inn.  
Where dye puttup, you?” Oh, I shall putt up at tile ‘Green Dragon’.”

52

PUTT UP WI’. To endure, to bear patiently.  
“I couldn’t putt up wi’n noo longer, so I gid’n the sack.”— I could not bear with him any longer, so I discharged him. “When I got hoaam last night, you, my wold dooman was cranky. She kep’ on jawen me till I couldn’t putt up wi’ et noo longer, so I started outdoors and left her.”

PUTT UPON. To be imposed on, or domineered over.

"He's jest the sort o' feller to putt upon anybody under'n; but I'll look out he don't putt upon me."

## Q.

QUAAITS. Quoits.

"He edden't a bad hand at quaaits: I be middlen, myself; but I can't come 'long side o' he."

QUAAM. A qualm.

QUARREL. A pane of window glass, properly diamond shaped.

(Probably from the French *quarré*.)

"The lozange is a most beautiful figure, and fit for this purpose, being in his kind a quadrangle reverst, with his point upward like to a quarrell of glass. —*Puttenham*."

QUEAL. A quill; also, to coil or curl up.

"He was quealed up like a snake."

QUEAL IN. To go to bed.

"I be tired as a dog, and think I shall goo and queal in." "I say you, I heerd yesterday that wold Joe Morris es dead, what used to live at Chillerton one time. He and his wife Nanny was a queer wold couple,—about the rummest vokes that ever I heerd tell on. One night in the zummer, aater they'd boath quealed in, it come on to thunder and lighten terbul heavy, and woke up wold Nanny, who was prid near frightened out of her wits; zo she rouses wold Joe up, and says too'n, 'Joe, do let's git up! vor I raaly thinks 'tes the end o' the wordle, or the day o' judgment, come.' ' Bide quiet,' says Joe, 'and let a feller sleep, can't ye, ye zoat wold fool; d'ye think the day o' judgment es comen in the night?'"

QUEER. Ill—tempered; also, to be sick or ill.

"If he acts anyway queer, I sholl start off hooam agen, sharp." "Hollo, Sam! how bist gitten on now?" " Well, I be better than I was, thinkee; but I have ben terbul queer vor the last week or two."

53

QUEER AS A DICK'S HATBAND. To be in a very morose or sullen temper.

"I went over to Dogshaant last Monday, to see varmer Morey about the keep vor the heifers; but zummet or nother had putt'n out. I could do nothen wi' 'en; he hardly spoke a dozen words to me, and was as queer as Dick's hatband."

QUERK. To sigh, or grunt.

"He goos about house querken like a wold zow."

QUID. To suck, to mumble in the mouth; applied generally to young animals.

QUIDDLE. To be fussy, or busy about trifles.

"He ben quiddlen about, doen nothen, all day."

QUILE. To coil; also, to quell, or subdue.

"They putt'n into a straight jacket, and that soon quiled 'en."

QUILT. To beat; also, to cover a ball with a network of twine.

"I'll gee that bwoy a middlen quilten when I comes across 'en, for pinnen my plums. — I'll give that boy a severe beating when I meet with him, for pilfering my plums."

QUOT. To sit down, to squat.

"I quot down under hedge, and he went by and never zid me."

## R.

RAA. Raw; also, a sore or tender spot.

"They hosses don't half pull together: titch Captain on the raa wi' the whip, hwoy."

RAAMES (*A.S. ream*, a ligament). The remains or fragments of a joint of meat, half-picked bones; also, a half-starved horse.

"Tes Zadderday to-day, and we han't got nothen but a vew raames vor dinner; but there, we sholl cook to-morrow, beein' Zunday." "Wold jobber Snow wanted to zill me a hoss. I never zid sich a wold raames in my life: I toold'n I wouldn't hay 'en in a gift."

RABBIT. A mild kind of oath.

"Od rabbit the bwoy."

RACK. A barrier, or kind of hatch across the lower part of a barn door.

54

RACK UP. To fill the racks with food for horses or cattle, the last thing at night before leaving them.

"Come on, mayet, and git the cannel and lantern; we must begin to rack up, 'tes ver' near half-aater zebe, you."

RACKET. "To stand the racket" of anything.—To abide by, or to be answerable for, the consequences.

RACKETTY. Thriftless, extravagant, dissipated.

"He was a reglar racketty sort o' chap avore he got married."

RAFTY. Having a rancid, stale, or musty smell.

"That ham got a kind o' rafty smell wi' et; I can't stnmickit."

RAMMEL CHEESE. Cheese made of new, or unskimmed, milk; the best kind of cheese.

RAMSONS. Wild garlic, *Allium ursinum*.

RAMSHACKLED. Old, dilapidated, broken, or out of repair; generally applied to an old crazy building, or vehicle out of order.

"He lives in a wold ramshackle plaace out at Lock's Green zomewhere." "I can't putt a hoss in sich a ramshackled wold keert as that; the zides 'nd vail out avore I got half-a-mile."

RANDY. Lewd, dissipated; also, a country fair or revel, —now almost obsolete in this sense, "Newtown Randy," the most noted of its kind, having been abolished for many years.

RAP AND RUN FOR. A saying.

"He'll never be wuth vive shillens, vor he spends all he can rap and run vor."—Only applicable to thriftless characters.

RARE. To raise or rear; also, to get into a violent rage.

"Hare up the ladder agen the rick, yen." "Dedn't the wold man rare at me"—Didn't the old man get into a rage with me.

RARE. Underdone, nearly raw; also, strong smelling.

RARRIDGE. A radish.

"I say, gee out into geardeen and git us a vew rarridges and a inyun or two vor zupper."

RATHE. Early; now almost obsolete.

55

RATHE RIPE. Early, or soon, ripe. In Northwood Churchyard is an epitaph on two children, who died in 1668 and 1670, which thus concludes:—

Such early fruites are quickly in their prime,  
*Rathe ripes* we know are gathered in betime;  
Such Primroses by Death's impartial hand  
Are cropped, and landy'd up at Heaven's command."

RATTLEMOUSE. A bat.

"There's a gurt rattlemouse vleein' about in steyabel, you. Git the rudder, and let's ketch'n."

RATTLETRAP. An old worn-out vehicle.

RATTLETRAPS. Old and rickety household goods.

"There's nothen in the house but a few wold rattletraps, not wuth a rap, and about half-a-bushel o' vleys."

RAZZER. A razor.

"Run in and ax your father to lend me his strap vor a vew minutes, wull'ee; I wants to strap my razzer, and sheeave this mornen avore dinnertime." "Here comes wold Bob Haazel, the razzer grinder, you: let's ax'n to grind our cutten knife; a wants sharpen bad enough."

"Wold Bob Hazel" perambulated the Island with his "razzer grinden" machine about 35 or 40 years ago; and one day, toiling along the road near Atherfield, was the subject of the second of the above remarks, made by the "keerter" to his "mayet," who were engaged in cutting hay from the rick with a "cutten knife" [which see], very blunt in the edge. As Bob was passing by he was accosted, and asked with a grin if he could grind the "cutten knife;" and to the surprise of his interrogators he coolly replied in the affirmative, took the knife, and commenced grinding it, making the sparks fly in showers, the pair of yokels watching his proceedings with some anxiety. When Bob had put the finishing touches to his work, he held out the knife with one hand, and demanded half-a-crown for the job with the other. The faces of the "keerter" and his "mayet" lengthened considerably on hearing this, as the sum was one which their combined purses could not supply; and Bob, seeing the cash was not forthcoming, put the knife on his machine and proceeded on his way leaving the discomfited pair staring in terror at the loss of the "cutten knife," and the consequences thereof when it came to the ears of "meyaster." Bob was scarcely half-a-mile on the road, when the required sum—by borrowing or begging—was obtained and one of the circumvented tricksters, running after him, paid the half-crown, and, receiving the knife from the jubilant "razzer grinder," returned a sadder, and perhaps wiser, man.

REACHES. The ridges in a ploughed field.

READIED. Cooked thoroughly, quite done.

"The callards be cooked, missus ; but the pork eddea't readied enough it. "—The cabbage is cooked, bat the pork is not done yet.

READY. Nearly, almost.

"I've walked from Nippert all the way hooam; and I be zo tired, I be ready to drop."

REAREN. Raising or putting the roof on a new house.

"They'll have the raff on at Appleford to.day, you; bean't you gwyne to the rearen feeast?"

'RECTUN POOAST. A directing or finger post. A favourite practical joke among the rustics, before the establishment of the County Constabulary, was to turn the "Rectun pooasts" round, so that the arms pointed directly opposite to what they should do.

RENSE. To wash out, to rinse.

"Come on, you, and let's rense out these trendels."

RENYARD. A fox; Reynard.

"The next we zid was a blind man,  
As blind as he could be;  
He zwore he zid bold Renyard  
Run up a hollow tree. "—*Old Hunting Song*.

RESOLUTE. Strong, hardy.

"'Twull be a job to tackle'n, vor he's a gurt resolute feller, you know."

RETCH (A.S. *ræcan*). To stretch, to try to vomit.

RICE. A long, supple branch of underwood.

"If thee doesn't mind what thee bist up to, bwoy, thee'st git the rice,"  
(*Two girls going home together*):—"Oh! I ray, Polly, han't ye hen and tore a gnrt slit in your frock!" "Have I? Oh my, shan't I ketch it when I gits hooarn ! Mother'll prid near skin me, and make a night cap wi' the peel." (*They part, and Folly erriees home*):—"Wher'st thee hen too, l'oll? I hen waaiten vor anower vor ye to goo and git me some milk; and I've a very good mind to gee thee a good hasten. But how ded ye tear yer frock like that, ye young faggot? Theest hen in copse agen, picken kettle caps and oxslips. I'll git a rice, and rice thee down till thee doesn't know where thee bist on thee head or thee heels; and not one bit o' sapper thee shatunt hay. Goo 'long upstairs to bed, ye good-for-nothen young hussy; I'll let thee know when I comes up there predney." (*The two girls meetiag agone next day*):—"How ded ye git on last night about yer frock, Folly ?" "Oh, mother packed me off to bed wi'out ar supper, and then she come np wi' a rice, and pnllid me onto' bed; and dedn't she twank me! I never had sich a ricen avore, and dedn't I roar and squall! they could hear me ronnd the earner."

RICK. A sprain.

"I've bin and ricked my yarm now. "—I have sprained my arm.

RICKESS. A rick yard.

"We must plaay in, mayet, if all this corn es to be got into rickess avore nammet time."

RID. Red.

"There's zome colour vor ye, mayet." "Oi you, 'tes blood rid all over, like variner Trell's waggon."

RIDDLE. Ruddle, a composition of red ochre, used to mark sheep.

RIDE. To get angry when teased or bantered.

"We got on to Tom about the wold mallard, and dedn't he ride and zwear over it."

RIDGEONER. A horse half castrated.

RIDGTY. A chain passing over the horse's back, to support the shafts of a cart or waggon.

RIDWEED. The poppy, *Papaver rhœas*.

RIG. To climb, or play in wantonness, to break through a fence.

"Zet down, I tell'ee! you'll tear yer clothes all to pieces, a riggen about so."

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RIGGTSH. Applied to sheep or cattle breaking through fences and getting out of a field.

"That's a terbul riggish heifer o' your'n, varmer; she's forever gitten' over hedge into my vatches."

RIG OUT. To hoax, or bamboozle; to cram with a fictitious story.

"I minds one time I was in the 'Hare an Houns' at Downend, you, and who should come in but wold Jolliffe, that used to live over at Waaitshill, or Stooanshiil, somewhere out about Buttbridge, and a had his yarm in a sling. 'Hollo meyaster!' somebody zays too'n, 'what have ye hurt your hand?' 'Iss,' a zays, ' I have. T'other day I was tryen to git down a gurt kite bough, and a broke off wi' me, and I vell out o' the tree and broke me yarm, and it harls me up miserable, now jest grass cutten time, too.' 'Well, 'tes a bad job vor ye,' says a chap zetten 'long side on 'en, that worked in the marl pit handy the house; 'but if you'll stand half-a-gallon o' beer, I can gee ye a resayt that'll keep ye vrom ever vallen out of a tree any more so long as ye be alive.' I could zee he was gwyne to rig the wold man out, you know you. 'Well,' says wold Jofliffe, 'I *should* like to hay that; 'tes fair doos, I spooase.' 'Oi you,' says t'other, 'tis right enough if ye onny goos by't.' Zo the wold man orders in the beer, and when 'twas about all dranked he says, 'Now then, let's hay this resayt ye promised me.' 'All right, wold bwoy,' says the chap, 'here 'tes; and if ye always volleys it you'll never vall out o' or tree any more, I'll be bound. Don't tich noo kite boughs ye can't raych standen on yer ligs, and ye'll never break any of yer booans nor vall down, let it be how 'twull.' Dedn't the wold man rare at 'en! he got so mad, a could hardly spake. 'If 'twuddent vor my yarm,' a zed, 'ye hang-gallus rogue, I'd laace thee jacket well vor thee.' But we all bust out in a reglar haw, haw, and a jumped up and off a went in a terbol pelt."

RIMEY. Hazy, slightly foggy.

RINE. Rind, the bark of a tree; also, skin.

"I het my lig agen that skote jest now, and I see it took a bit o' the rine off."

RINE OFF. To strip.

"Wold Dick talked about rinen off and clouten on 'en."

RIP. To reap; also, a worthless person. Whien applied to a female,—vile, unchaste.

He's a reglar wold rip; don't hay nothen to do wi' 'en."

RIPHOOK. A reaping hook, a sickle.

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RISH. To rush. "Rish to cut," or Rich to leather."—To ride or drive fast, or at a great rate.

"I was worken down Crannidge's one time, hedgen and deetehen, you; and all at once I heerd summet hissien and snoppen like a bag o' warnuts gwyne rish droo copse. Zo I goos to see what was up, and I comes across a bobby's nest vull o' gurt big young ones, and there was mister scorpian (a snake) jest gwyne to scoff 'em up. I up wi' my stakebittle and let drave down across 'en, and a went down droo the eath zomewhere, vor I never zid no more on 'en aaterwards."

ROKE (reek). Steam fron boiling water, slaked lime, or from a newly made rick.

"Putt on the pot led: look how the roke viees out all over the place." "The haayrick rokes a good deal moore than I likes."

RONGS. The rungs or steps of a ladder.

RONK. Growing strong or luxuriantly; also, strong tasted or smelling.

ROT GUT. Small beer.

"Hurrah, varmer Ben! how bist? Thee doesn't look very pert jest at present." Noa, I don't spooase I do, vor I don't veel over toppen, and kindy queer in my innerds, I can tell'ee. I yet some apple pudden at dinnertime, and then I went down to wold Beagle's, and was fool enough to git a pint or two of his rot gut into me, and 'tes sarren me out cruel. I shan't doo't agen, I'll war'nt it."

ROUGH. Ill, or sick.

"How be ye gitten on, you? ye hen led up, han't ye?" "Iss, I have; but I be gitten round agen now; I was terbul rough vor a bit."

ROWET. Coarse, rough grass, growing generally among furze or brushwood.

ROWSE. To disturb, to drive or put out.

"Goo and rowse they there fowls out o' gearden."

ROXELL. To wrestle.

RUDDER (*A. S. hrudrian*, to sift). A sieve; also, to shake one's head.

"I've heerd my' father tell o' wold Forred, what used to be clark at Newchurch, and plated a hobwoy in church a Zunndays; another wold feller, that lived at Pigspond, used to plaay a bazoon or zummet o' the sort there besides. One Zunday, aater the sarmon, they had to sing the Wold Hundred; but when the paason—Gill, I thinks hes naame was—finished up, wold Forred was vast asleep. 'Tother wold man nudges 'en, and says, 'Come, come, Richard, let's strick up.' 'All right!' zings out wold Forred, about half awake, 'I'll lay two half-crowns on the rid cock.' The paason ruddered hes head at 'en when a heerd it; but a dedn't say nothen too'n, as I knows on."

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RUE. A small strip of coppice.

RUE IN. In hayraking, to put two or three swathes into one.

“Look sharp and finish ruein in that haay, and let’s begin poken.”

RUM. Eccentric, odd.

“He’s a miserable rum wold feller.”

RUN. To grow; also, to have an outlet or demand for.

“These turmets be all run to zeed.” “He got sich a good run for his barley, always.”

RUN DOWN. To depreciate, to speak disparagingly of.

RUSTY. Restive ; angry, or morose.

“The wold dooman sims terbul rusty over it.”

## S.

SAACY. Pert, insolent; also, wanton or skittish.

“Don’t you be zo saacy, bwoy, or I shall clout yer years.”

“That hoss was turned out in the meead, ‘till lie got so saacy we had to take ‘en in and putt’n to plough.”

SAAVEALL. An appendage to a candlestick or lantern, to burn the candle ends.

SAFE. Sure, or certain.

“He’s safe to be there Zadderday.”

SAMPER. Samphire.

SAR To serve, to feed animals.

“That jest sar’d ‘en right.’

“I thinks about gwyne to Nippert predney; d’ye want anything? And I was gwyne to ax ye if ye wouldn’t mind sarren my pig at dinner-time; I’ve mixed the vittles up all ready vor’n.” “All right, I’ll sar’n vor ye; and I shall be glad if yell goo into Daycon’s and git me half-a-yard o’ Rooshian card, to mend my wold man’s breeches wi’.”

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SCALE, To throw stones, to pelt anything.

“They bwoys he out there scalen the apple trees: I shall be aater ‘em wi’ a stick.” “That chap scaled the pigs all down the road.”

SCALEY. Mean, shabby, or stingy.

“He’s a miserable scaley sort o’ feller: you’ll git nothen out on ‘en vor your trouble.”

SCOAT. A prop or shore, generally used for a rick.

“Come on, mayet, we must goo and scoat up that wheeat rick, else he’ll be all about house avore mornen.”

SCOFF. To eat, to devour.

"I axed 'em to hay a mouthful o' vittles, and they set down and scoffed every bit o' grub there was on the taable: they dedn't leave a mite o' nothen for noobody else, but scogelled up the lot."

SCOGGEL. To eat voraciously; to gulp or swallow anything without chewing it.

SCOOP. A broad wooden or iron shovel. Those used in barns are made of wood, and are called "barn scoops."

SCOTCH. To cut or notch anything.

SCRAALD. Corn, when nearly ready for harvest, blown about in different directions.

SCRAN BAG. A bag in which a labourer carries his dinner; called, also, "dinner bag."

SCRANNEL. To eat greedily, to gobble up.

SCRAZE. To graze.

"I've scrazed my elbow a bit."

SCREECH OWL. The bull thrush.

"There used to be dree or vour wold women about here one time, who used to prid near frighten all the vokes in the parish out o' what little sense they had. There was wold granny Jooans, and wold granny Morris, and one or two more wold brimstooane bitches, that was vor ever zeein' tokens, and ghostes, and signs, and noobody knows what nonsense bezides; and a gurt many people was zoat enough to bleeve sich traade, and used to goo to 'em vor charms, and to hay their fortunes toold. One day your or vive was got together in granny zomebody's house—I vorgits which 'twas now—but howsomever there was a larkish kind o' chap handy, that zid the lot goo in,—I thinks his naame was Jacobs,—zo be thought he'd jest like to hear what they was on upon; zo he slips over hedge into the gearden, and crapes in under the open winder.

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There they was round the taable, tellen fortunes in their teacups: one was to hay a carriage stop at her door, and another was to zee a strainger avore night, and a lot moore o' sich wold zoat foolishness; and then one on 'em begun to tell how she heerd a screech owl several times the night avore, and 'twas a sartain token o' death to zomebody or nother she knowed. 'Iss,' zays another, 'one vlow cloose by my uncle's head, and gid a terbul screech, and the poor wold man come hooam and went to bed, and was a corpse avore the week was out.' Then another wold fool toold a yarn about a gurt high thing all in white, that she zid one mornen in wold Cooper's gearden, avore 'twas light, when she was gwyne out to washen. 'Ah!' zays the wold dooman the house belonged to, 'onny last night I was putten a vew sticks under my kettle to bwoil'n up vor my tay, when all at once the room simmed to git mummy; so I looked up, and massy me! if there wudden't a gurt ugly black thing, wi' eyes ver' near as big as the top o' one o' these taycups, jest outside the winder, staren in at me: I ded gee sich a squawk.' While all this was gwyne on, Jacobs whipped down the gearden and got a wold gallybagger that was there, and ties 'en on to the wold dooman's oben rubber that was layen agen the wall, and direckly minute the wold fool was tellen how she squawked at the gurt black thing she zid the night avore, Jacobs rammmed the wold gallybagger right droo winder, on top o' the taable, right in the middle on 'em. They dedn't stop to hay a second look at it, but roared out, and vlow out o' doors like bees out o' a tee hole. 'Twas second time avore they come back, and while they was away Jacobs putt the gallybagger in his plaace agen; zo they dedn't know the geeam he had wi' 'em. But the yoppel they

maade over it terrified their neighbours zo, that lots on 'em was afeared to goo out doors in the dark vor months aaterwards."

SCRILE. Underwood, brushwood.

SCRIM. To grasp forcibly, so as to bruise or crush anything.

"He's hen and scrimmed the letter up."

SCRIMPY. Small, or mean.

"Well, that es a scrimpy bit o' pork."

SCROFF. Dead wood fallen under trees; also, refuse of faggots or straw.

"I can't bet the oben, vor I got nothen to keep the vire up wi' but a lot o' wold scroff."

SCROOP. To creak, or grate; as a pair of new shoes, a cartwheel wanting grease, or the rusty hinges of a door.

"I can hear that keert-wheel scroop half-a-mile off; a must he graced when we gits into rickess." "Il got a pair o' new shoes on, and they *do scroop*, I can tell' ee."

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SCROW. Cross-looking, of ill appearance, scowling.

SCRUMP. Baked hard; short in eating.

"These biscuits yet nice and scrump, you, wi' a bit o' cheese."

SCRUNCH. To crunch, or crush with an audible sound.

"That dog es scrunchen the booans up."

SCRUNGE. To squeeze or press.

"Don't keep on scrungen me up in the corner zo"

SCUD. A slight, or passing, shower.

"How bist this mornen, you? Gwyne to git rome raain, d'ye think?" "Well, I dunno what to make on't. I zee the wind's draawed away in round clooser; but it med be onny a bit o' a scud aater all."

SCUDDICK. A morsel; sometimes, a small coin.

"There edden't a scuddick on't left." "I can't lend ye tuppence, vor I hain't got a scuddick about me."

SCUFF (*A.S. scúfan*). To scrape the feet on the ground in walking; to walk in a slipshod manner.

"Why doesn't lift thee ligs off the ground? thee'st very zoon scuff the zoles o' thee boots out else."

SETTLE. The foundation, of timber, faggots, &c. (generally raised on stone pillars), of a rick ; a long high-backed seat, used in kitchens.

SHAB OFF. To sneak or shuffle off.

"I zay, Bob, hast thee zid our keerter's mayet about here anywhere?" "Oi you, he was here, zetten on the barn door rack, while I was keaven up jest now; but when I looked round agen, a was shabbed off."

SHACKLES. Twisted slips of hazel or willow, in the shape of a ring, to fasten hurdles to stakes or posts.

SHAKES. "He's noo gurt shakes."—He is no great things, or nothing to boast of.

SHARP. To sharpen.

"Wull'ee lend me your whetstooan, you? I wants to sharp my riphook."

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SHAT. Shall. "Shatn't."—Shall not.

"Thee shatn't goo down shore to-day, let it be how 'twull.' —You shall not go down to the shore to-day, let whatever will happen, or be the consequences of it.

SHELLEN IN. The shortening of the days ; the dusk or twilight.

"Aater Michaelmas the days begin shellen in vast."

SHET. To weld together, as two pieces of iron.

SHET OFF. To unyoke horses from the plough; to end the day's work with horses.

"What time d'ye think 'tes, mayet?" "I dunno, yon; but vrom the look o' the sun, I louz 'tes prid near shet off time."

SHICKSHACK. Oak leaves and apples, worn on Royal Oak day, in memory of Charles II.,—principally by boys, and now almost obsolete. The juveniles, with their hats and caps bedecked with oak leaves, went about repeating the following couplet:—

"The twenty-ninth o' May  
Es shiekshack day,"

—till noon, when the commemoration was supposed to be ended.

SHIM. A flitting shadow.

"Now I can't zackly zay if he's gone hooam or no; but I louz a med be, vor I jest ketched the shim o' zomebody gwyne past the door jest now. "—I can't exactly say if he is gone home or not; but I think be might be, for I caught a glimpse of the shadow of someone going past the door just now.

SHIRK. To slink or sneak off; to evade in a sly or cowardly manner.

"He's ben and shirked off wi'out dooen his work." "He's too windy by half, and he's sure to shirk out out zomehow or nother. "—He's too wheedling, or plausible, and is sure to evade or sneak out of his obligations in some way.

SHIRT OUT. To get anyone's "shirt out," or make him "shirty," is to make hin get into a passion, or very angry, by teasing, bantering, or jeering him,—to the delight of his tormentors.

"I zid wold Mussell gwyne by yesterday, you, and I sung out too'n, ' Hast pinned ar a pig's innerds layetly?' and dedn't he jest about get shirty! Hes shirt was out direckly, and a talked about rinen off vor me; so I slipped along and left 'en zwaaren in the road."

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SHOOT. A steep hill in a road or lane; also, a young growing pig.

"He ver' near auverdrode the dungpot gwyne down Newchurch Shoot." "I shan't be gwyne out o' town jest direckly, you; vor I must goo into market and zee if I can't buy a couple of shoots."

**SHOW HACKLE.** To get ready, or be willing, to fight. An expression derived from a cock erecting his “hackles,” or feathers about his neck, before beginning to fight.

“One Whitsuntide, a good many years ago now you, I was in Johnny Buckler’s out at Caaburn, and ‘long come one o’ the Jackmans vrom Brison, a terbul maggoty kind o’ feller, you know you. A brought in zummet in a bag wi ‘en, and simm’d mortal keerful over’t; zo zomehody axed, ‘What hav’ee got there, you?’ and a zays, ‘What have I got? why, zomethen nobody in the Island ever zid avore—a churry-coloured cat, mayet.’ ‘Let’s hay a look at he, then,’ zed several at once. ‘Noa,’ zays Jackman, ‘that won’t do it [yet], I must hay a handsel avore the bag’s opened; ‘tes wuth drippence apiece to zee sich a out and out cat as this es; but as ‘tes Fair-time and all, you shall zee the cat vor a penny apiece, jest vor once.’ Zo they chucked a penny all round into Jackman’s hat, and he claaed it out and putt it into hes pocket, and dedn’t sim in a hurry to untie the bag. Zo one or two zays too’n, ‘Now then, mayet, look sharp and open the zack, and stoor out this churrycolour cat;’ and a opened the bag, and out jumped a gurt black cat, wi’ eyes like rid hot coals, and vlow out o’ winder and across the road like a shot. Zome on ‘em dedn’t half like it, and got shirty about it, and begnn to show hackle and talk about clouten on ‘en; but Jackman maade us all laugh, for a zed, ‘Look here now, chaps, ‘tes all square enough, vor there’s black churries, edden’t there, as well as rid ones; and that cat’s black enough vor anybody, I’ll war’nt it.’ Zo he ordered in half-a-gallon wi’ the money he’d got, and it all passed off very well.”

**SHOW ON.** To scold or rate, to reprimand ; also, to go through a performance.

“I let the cows get into the clover, and dedn’t meyaster show off at me about it “ “When be the Moll Andrey’s gwyne to show off, mayet ?” “Oh, I heerd one o’ the show fellers zay ‘twould be about dree o’clock in the aatnoon, you.”

**SHOW TO.** To accept a challenge to fight; to undertake anything.

“Its no use vor he to show to wold Harry; he’s too good a man vor’n. “—It’s no use for him to attempt to fight old Harry, &c. “I sims kindy rough this mornen, you; I can’t show to noo vittles. “—I feel out of sorts this morning, and have no appetite for food.

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**SHRAMMED.** Benumbed, or shrunk up with cold.

“Let’s get avore the vire and hay a bit of a het, vor I be ver’ near shrammed; my vingers be like ice.”

**SHRIP.** To cut or whittle away a piece of wood, to make chips, to clip a hedge.

**SHROKE.** Shrivelled.

“They there apples be all shroke up to nothen.”

**SHROVEN.** Children going from house to house and singing for cakes, on Shrove Tuesday. The children were called “ Shrovers,” and the cakes given them “ Shrove cakes.” This old custom, like most others, has now fallen into desuetude; but about forty years ago the children of a parish or neighbourhood assembled early in the morning of Shrove Tuesday, and visited the houses of the principal inhabitants in succession, beginning with the gentry and ending with the farmers. If the supply of cakes ran short, pence, bread and cheese, or pancakes were substituted; and in very few cases indeed were the “Shrovers” sent away empty. A song, used only on these occasions, was sung, and those who sang it the loudest were considered the best “ Shrovers,” and often got an extra cake or penny in consequence. The song varied a little in different parts of the Island, but generally ran as follows:—

“Shroven, Shroven,  
I be come a Shroven.  
A piece of bread, a piece of cheese,

A piece of your fat baacon,  
Doughnuts and pancakes,  
All o' your own maaken;  
Vine vovls in a pie,  
My mouth es very dry,  
I wish I was zo well a-wet,  
I'd zing the better vor a nut.  
Shroven, Shroven,  
We be come a Shroven."

SHROVY, or SHREAVY. Poor, applied to land; want of depth of soil.

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SHUCKS. The husks or shells of peas or beans, after the seeds have been taken out.

SIGHT. A large quantity, a number.

"There was a sight o' people at varmer Way's zale, you."

SIM. To seem; also, to feel.

"I sims terbul kind o' sleepy this aaternoon, mayet."

SIMMEN. Seeming, appearing.

"Simmen to me you'd better let that job alooan. "—It seems to me—or, in my opinion—you had better not do so-and.so.

SIMPLE. Weak minded, foolish, semi-idiotic.

"He es that simple, he takes in everything that's toold 'en."

SINGREEN (*A.S. sin-gréne*). The house leek, *semper vivum tectorum*. Its leaves are considered to be cooling, and, mixed with cream, are used to cure eruptions.

SITHE. To sigh or sob.

SKEEAS. Scarce, uncommon.

SKEEATHY, or SCATHY. Thievish, sneaking.

"Have ye got ar a dog to gee away, varmer? I had to putt a charge o' shot into my wold dog last week; he was got zo skeeathy, there was noo keepen nothen out o' the jaas on 'en. I had a duck zetten in the keert honse, and a yet up all the iggs, and zwalleyed the wold duck aaterwards; vor all I could find on her was a bit of a wing and a yew veathers layen about."

SKENT. The diarrhœa, or looseness of the bowels, in cattle.

"That 'ere heifer o' your'n es a 'skenter' "—i.e., an animal that will not fatten.

SKICE. To frisk or race about, to frolic.

"Dont the mice skice round house in the night, you!"

SKILLEN. The back part of a cottage or farm house; a penthouse.

SKITTER BOOT. A heavy, hobnailed boot, worn by labourers.

SHIVER. A skewer.

SKIVER WOOD. The wood of which skewers are generally made,—Spindle tree, *euonymus Europæes*.

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SLAABACK. A great clumsy, or ignorant, person.

“Hast zid the fresh maade at varmer White’s it, you? She es a gurt slaabacked thing, from what I can zee on her.”—“Have you seen the new maid at farmer White’s yet? She is a great clumsy person, from what I can see of her.”

SLACK. Impertinence or abuse; also, to be indolent.

“Don’t let’s hay noo moore o’ yer slack here, or out doors ye goos neck and crop, sharp.”—“Let us have no more of your impertinence, or you will be thrown ont of doors at once.”—“That bwoy sims mortal slack to-day.”—“That boy seems very indolent to-day.”

SLACKUMTRANCE. A slovenly or dirty woman.

“I never thought much on her: she always was a gurt slackumtrance thing, to my mind.”

SLAMMAKIN. Untidy, careless, slovenly.

“I won’t hay things done in sich a slammaken way: ‘twun’t do vor me.”

SLAP UP. To be slap up, is to be quite well, to look well, or to be well dressed.

“Hows’t git on, you?” “Oh, slap up, mayet.” “I zid Jack Zunday evenen, and a was looken slap up, —better than ever I zid ‘en avore.”

SLAT. To strike or slap; to throw down, or to throw water about.

“If thee doesn’t gee off roaren, I’ll slat thee.” “He brought the things in, and slat ‘em down bout house.”

SLETCH. To stop or cease; also, to slake lime.

“We cut and keerted twenty acres one year, you, in dree days; but I don’t want another sich a job; ‘twas hard slaavery and noo sletch in it, vrom mornen to night.”

SLIM. Slight, or slender.

“He’s growen up a tallish, slim chap, now.”

SLINK. A small piece of wet meadow land; also, a weak or half—starved animal.

“That heifer es a slink of a thing.”

SLIPS. Young growing pigs.

SLOUCH To walk in a shambling manner; to slink about.

“There goos wold Jem Stretch, slouchen along, wi’ hes rags vleein’ in the wind”

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SLURD. Intoxicated, drunk.

“He ben to Cowes wi’ a looad o’ barley, and come back about dree parts slued; as much as ever he can zee a hole in a ladder.”

SLUGGARD’S GUISE. A sluggard’s manner, or sluggardly habit; hence the rhyme applied to lazy children:—

“Thee bist sluggard’s guise,  
Loth to goo to bed, and loth to rise.”

SLUSH. Wet mud.

"Here's our Hen wi' hes new clothes on, and a must needs git riggen up top o' the pig's house and vail down into the slush, and a pretty pickle he's in. I'll take the rine off the back on un when I gits 'en indoors."—Here's our Henry with his new clothes on, and he must go and climb up on the pig's house and fall down into the wet mud—or filth. A pretty mess he's in. I'll take the skin off his back when he comes indoors.

SLUTTISH. Dirty or drizzling weather.

"Hollo, missus I how be ye? Terrábble sluttish to-day, edden't it?"

SMAAM. To smear or daub with paint or tar.

"Have ye zid the wold cappender about here layetly?" "A was here yesterday, smaamen over the barn's door wi' a tar brish, but I han't zid nothen on 'en zunce."

SMELLERS. The whisker hairs of a cat.

SMIRT. Quick, adroit, smart; also, quantity, or distance.

"There's a smirt lot on't left it. "—There's a good deal of it left yet.

SMOCKFAACED. Bashful, beardless, sheepish.

SMOCK FROCK. A labourer's white round frock.

SNAIL'S TROT. Walking very slowly; Crawling along.

SNAAKE'S-STANG. The Dragon-fly. These insects are often found in the Island of a larger size than usual, and very brilliant in colour. They are popularly supposed to have a sting which is as venomous as the bite of a viper or an adder, and are dreaded accordingly. Being generally to be seen in the vicinity of brooks and ponds, they were also considered to be the guardians of the fish, and to sting all improper persons who attempted to catch them. Children held them in great fear, and on the appearance of a "Snake's-stang," used to sing or repeat the following rhyme as a kind of charm or protection against the noxious insect :—

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"Snake's-stang, Snake's-stang, vlee all about the brooks,  
And sting all the bad bwoys that vor the fishes looks;  
But let all the good bwoys ketch all the fish they can,  
And car 'em away hooam to fry 'em in the pan.  
Bren butter they shall yet at supper wi' their fish,  
But all the little bad bwoys shall onny lick the dish."

How the "Snake's-stang" could distinguish between the good and bad "bwoys" is altogether inexplicable.

SNARKER. A word of very little definite meaning, but used thus:—

"The cake's burnt to a snarker"—*i.e.* burnt up—or to a cinder.

SNAWF. The snuff of a candle; also, to trim or cut off the tapering roots of turnips or carrots.

"I be gwyne snawffen turmets to-morrow, you."

SNEEAD. The pole or handle of a scythe.

"I must goo down to blacksmith's shop to-night, and git a new ring vor my zive sneead."

**SNOACE.** To snuffle, to speak through the nose.

"I zay you, d'ye mind that 'ere Smith, that went by the naame o' 'Skaymer'? A used to hay a miserable snoach wi' 'en, and lived at Caaburn Bottom one time,—the plaace you know, you, where they makes Olmanecks, and putts in the rid letters down in the bottom of the well. One day Skaymer was out our way about zummnet or nother, and was talken to meyaster and the bwoy (he's growed up now), and a zays, 'What be ye gwyne to make o' your bwoy here, meyaster?' 'Well,' meyaster zed, 'I can't hardly tell it; but mooast likely I sholl make a buttcher on 'en.' 'If that's what ye meeans to do wi' 'en,' zays Skaymer, 'you'd better putt'n wi' wold Doctor Clarke down at Yarmouth, vor he's the biggest buttcher I ever zid, or heerd on in this country.'"

**SNOBBLE.** To devour greedily, to snap up,—as ducks eating slugs.

**SNOOZLE** (sometimes **SNOODLE**). To nestle, to lie close together; also, to rub and scratch, and attend assiduously to pigs.

"I zee the wold zow and the pigs be all snoozled in together."

71

In a case of pig-stealing tried many years ago at Winchester, the chief witness for the prosecution was asked by the opposing counsel why he was so positive in swearing to the stolen pigs, as all pigs were very much alike. "Why," said the witness, "I'll tell'ee vor why: cause I, *snoodled 'em*, and could prid near undertake to zware to every heer on their backs." The term "*snoodled 'em*" was a poser to counsel and judge, and an explanation was called for; when it was found to mean that the witness had attended to the pigs daily, feeding them constantly with different things, and in rubbing and scratching their backs had employed all his leisure time.

**SNOP.** A sharp or quick blow.

"The wold dooman was roasten some taeties under the grate—they *ded* smill good,—and I tried to claa out one or two; but I wudden't quite smirt enough, vor she gid me sich a snop on the vingers wi' the short-handed brish, that they ached vor half an hour."

**SOGGED.** Saturated with wet.

**SOLID.** Serious, or grave looking.

"He dedn't zay nothen, but he looked terbul solid about it."

**SOMEWHEN.** At some time or other.

**SOWL.** To pull the ears of a person; or, a dog fastening on the ears of an animal.

"The dog gid the wold zow a middlen sowlen all round the ground, avore she got to the gap."

**SOWSE.** The ears, feet, and tail of a pig, pickled and boiled.

"The taailor he shot, but he missed hes mark,  
And he shot hes wold zow right droo and droo her heart.

'Od dang it!' rays the taailor, 'I don't keer a louse,  
Vor I sholl hay black puddens, chitlens, and sowse.'"

—*Old Song.*

**SPARS.** Sticks of hazel or withy,—split, pointed, twisted, and doubled in the middle,—used to fasten the thatch to ricks and houses.

**SPARK-ED** (*A.S. spearca*). Speckled or spotted.

SPAT. A blow with the flat of the hand, it slight slap.

“Spats.”—Short leggings. “Breeches and spats” were the height of fashion with the “Bucks” of the Island sixty years ago.

72

SPEARs. The hands of a clock or watch; also, the shoots of potatoes when stored in a heap.

“The spears o’ my watch be got harled up zomehow; they won’t goo round. “—The hands of my watch are entangled in some manner; they won’t go round. “I shall be at hooam all day to-day, vor we be gwyne to spear our taeties “—*i.e.*, to break the shoots off the potatoes to preserve them.

SPELL. A short time, an interval; also, to insinuate, to ask indirectly.

“Take hold o’ the rake and gee us a bit of a spell, wull’ee you”—*i.e.* an interval of rest.

“That weld feller wants me to lend ‘en my puncheon now ‘tes harvest time. He ben here spellen vor’n a time or two; but a edden’t gwyne to hay’n, vor I shell want to use ‘en myself.”

SPILE. A wooden vent peg for a cask.

SPIRES. A coarse kind of rushes; the stems of the *carex paniculata*, or similar sedges.

SPIT-DEEP. The depth of earth turned up by a spade when digging.

SPLAA. Broad, ill made.

“That Will Reynolds es a gurt, unhandy, lop-yearred looken feller, and the gurt splaa veet on ‘en es about the size o’ zeedlips. Weld Jeans, the shoemaker, used to zay hes shop wudden’t big enough to make boots vor Reynolds in—he hadn’t got room there to turn ‘em round, ze he was foaced to goo out into geearden and make ‘em under a tree.”

SPREADER. The piece of wood, or bar, between the chain traces of the horses in a team.

SPUDGEL. A small bucket, with a long stick for a handle, used for bailing out water.

“Hello mayet thee looks as if thee’st ben droo hedge backards. What’s up wi’ thee?”  
Oh! my back’s ver’ near broke. I come across a hin’s nest under a settle last night, you, wi’ zix iggs in ‘en. I zucked vive, and was jest agwyne to git rid o’ t’other, when wold ‘Billygoat’ come round the corner o’ the barn and ketched me, and, wuss luck, there was a spudgel up agen the barn’s door, zo the weld man vlow in and claeed hold by the spudgel, and smeared in athurt my back wi’ booath hands, and knocked me down as flat as a pancake; I thought my back was broke vor a minute or two. ‘There Tom,’ a zed to me, ‘that’ll spwile thy appetite for any moore o’ my iggs,’ and so it ded; I dedn’t zwalley the last on ‘em, but slipped off as sharp as I could.”

73

SPURRETS. Spirits; gin, rum, or brandy.

SQUASH. To crush, to bruise.

SQUAWK. To squall or squeak.

"I haates to hear a lot o' young ones squawken when I be indoors."

SQUAWKEN THRUSH. The missel thrush.

SQUEAL. To squeak.

"She squealed like a wold zow hung up in a hurdle."

SQUENCH. To quench.

SQUINNY. To fret or cry as a child; also, lean or thin.

"What a squinny little bit of a pig!"

SQUINNY GUTS. A fretful or peevish child.

"That maade o' your'n es a regler squiuny guts. If she belonged to me, I believe I should knock the head on her off."

SQUISH. To squeeze or gush out.

"I was gwyne down the layen in the dark, and all at once I went right over boots in the keert loose; zoo the water squished out o' my boots as I walked."

SQUITTER<sup>5</sup> (sometimes SQUIRTS). The diarrhœa or looseness in cattle.

SQUOT. To sit on the ground; also, to bruise or dint anything by a blow.

"I'm prid near fagged out, so I sholl jest squot down under hedge here vor vive minutes."

STAABIT. A mouthful or two of food taken between meals, a staybit; generally, a piece of bread and cheese before dinner.

STABBLE. To walk about on and soil a newly cleaned floor with wet or dirty boots.

"If missus comes in, won't she show off at thee vor maken all that stabble bout house ! Thee'st git it!"

STALL. A partition in a stable; also, a covering or case for a sore finger.

"I got a gatheren comen on my vinger: wull'ee make me a stall vor'n, missus, playse."

74

STAFF HOOK. A reaping hook or sickle with a long handle, used to cut pease and trim hedges.

STALE. Slow, sluggish.

"That bwoy sims terbul stale to-day: I sholl stoor'n up wi' the whip predney."

STAND TO. To insist on or substantiate anything; also, to be sponsor to a child.

STANDVURDER. A contention, a quarrel.

"Wold Jerry Bull ben dead now a good many years; I can onny jest mind 'en. A used to be a kind o' groom or coachman to Squire Rishwuth [Rushworth], who lived at Freshwater one time. The Squire couldn't bear turnpike geats—they was jest putt up then; a wouldn't never paay if a could help it, and always had a deuce of a standvurder wi' the turnpike feller. 'Drave rish droo,' he'd say to Jerry, 'I'll stand the racket on't.' One day, the Squire was took mortal bad, and thought a was gwyne off the hooks; so a had wold Jerry in to say good-bye too'n. 'Ah Jerry,' a zed, 'I be gwyne a longer journey now

than ever you drove me.' ' Well, meyster,' zays Jerry, 'ye won't hay to paay noo turnpikes on the road, that'll be one consolation to ye."

START. An upshot, a fuss, a disturbance.

"Here's a middleN start, you! Our keerter's ben and 'listed for a sojer."

STAST. To stop, to give up, to abandon; also, to flag.

STEAN. To line or lay with stones. (Now almost obsolete.)

"We found aftor ye inninge of ye Haven [Brading], almost in ye middle thereof, a well steined with stones, which argueth it had binn firme lande and inhabited. "—*Sir J. Oglander's MS.*

STERRUP. A leather band used by shoemakers to hold a boot in its place while being sewn.

STERRUP ILE. Unsuspecting or dull youths were often sent by their seniors to the village cobbler with a request for "Sterrup ile," to quicken their apprehension; but which the petitioners found to their cost, consisted in a vigorous application of the *sterrup* to their shoulders; the cobbler always thinking it his duty to give as good measure as possible of his oil when asked for it, especially as he was certain the recipient would never come again for more.

75

"When I was a gurt hard bwoy, one time, out in the rickess at Wroxall wi' that 'ere maggotty Sam Jacobs, a zed to me:'Goo down to cobbler Coombes's vor me, wull'ee, and ax 'en to gee ye a drap o' hes best sterrup ile; there's noo call vor ye to take anything to car et in.' Zo, like a fool, off I goos, and axed the wold man vor't. A was zet there, zowen away; but as zoon as I toold'n what I was come vor, a rared up and took hes sterrup off his knee, and draaed en dree or vower times right across my showlders, ready to cut me all to pieces. 'There's the ile,' a zays, 'and I've rubbed it in vor thee.' I roared out, and shabbed off as quick as I could, looken middlen foolish; and I've always minded what *sterrup ile* was vrom that day to this."

STEW. Anxiety, misgiving, or fear.

"I dedn't know how 'twould turn out, and I was in a terbul stew about it tell 'twas all over."

STICK. A tree.

"That's a fine stick o' tember. "—That's a fine timber tree.

STILLURS. Steelyards, for weighing.

STITCH. A rood of land; also, a pain in the side after running.

STIVER up. To bristle or brush up, as hair.

"Hes heear was stivered up middlen."

STOCKY. Stout, thick-set.

"He's got a short, stocky chap, now."

STOOAN. A stone. "Stooan hoss."—A stallion.

STOAN. To stir a liquid; also, to turn or drive out.

STOP-GAP. A substitute, one put in from necessity, to fill the place of a better man for a time.

"I bea'n't a gwyne to he maade a stop-gap on vor noobody, if I knows it."

STOUT (*A.S. stilt*). A fly that stings cattle; the gad-fly.

"My eyes, you! the heifers got the stout, and be all gone taail-on-end, right down droo the clover, and rish droo hedge into copse."

STEAIN. To strain; also, a farrow or litter of pigs.

"My zow got a fine strain o' ten pigs this mornen."

STEAA-VORK. A large wooden fork, shaped like the letter Y, used to carry straw for thatching stacks or houses. A long-legged person, of either sex, is often nicknamed "Straa—vorks."

76

STRADDLE. To stride; to stand or move with the legs wide apart. A woman riding a horse like a man is said to ride "*astraddle*."

STRAKE. One piece of the iron used to "*bond*" a wheel.

STRETCH. A piece of straight wood used to sweep over the top of the bushel when filled,—a strike.

STRICK. To strike. "Strick in here."—Begin working just in this spot or place.

STROGS. Short leather gaiters, very similar to "Spats," (*which see*).

STROKERS. The last milk drawn from a cow in milking.

STUBBERDS. A variety of the apple.

STUFFLE. To stifle.

"I jest ben up top o' the haayrick, and a's hetten zoo, the roke var' near stuffed me: a was putt together too quick."

STURTLE. To frighten, to startle.

"Hello you! deds't get woke up last night? ' ' I'll war'nt it, mayet; gullies, dedn't it blow and thunder and lighten! I was afeared to lay in bed, zo I turned out, vor I was regler sturtled like." "But where be you off to this way?" "Why, down shore you: a ship come in last night." "Ded there? then here's off long wi' ye; noo doubt we sholl pick up zummet or nother, mayet. Dost know what she's loaded wi'?" "Oh, pineapples and oranges; or zomethen like it, —zoo Will Buckett toold me. The life-boat went out to 'em, and saaved thirteen; but vower on 'em got drowned." "You don't zay zoo! Well, the zooner we gits down shore the batter, then."

SUANT. Smooth, even, regular, equally distributed.

"That's a suant piece of barley you got in Barnclose, varmer." "My keerter toold me he knowed how to zow a vew acres; but he don't sim to do it at all suant, to my mind."

**SURGE.** A quick motion, force, or collision.

"I was out in gearden, hoen taeties, when I zees the hoss and trap comen down the road stretch gallop; and they come wi' sich a surge up agen the corner o' the wall, that it knocked one o' the wheels clean off, and auverdrowed the hoss and all."

**SWAAILEN.** Walking in a rolling and lazy manner.

"Here comes weld Bung Russel, swaailen along as if a was gwyne to vull to pieces. He ought to be maade chaairman o' the Laazy Club."

77

**SWEAL** (A.S. *.swélan*). To singe or scorch, to burn superficially; also, to curve or turn round quickly or suddenly.

"I zay, meyaster, be ye gwyne to scald yer pigs, or sweal 'em? "*—i.e.*, To scald off the bristles from your pigs, or burn them off. "Hollo Jim! thee bist like a swealed cat—moore scabs than hear." "I thought I should a vared out as straaight as a line; but jest avore I got out end, that darned bwoy flung a gurt clot into hedge, and maade the wold mare sweal round; zo I ended in kind o' raainbow fashion."

**SWEETWORT.** The liquor of malt in brewing, before the hops are added.

**SWILE.** Mud or filth.

"They there pigs are up to their bellies in swile."

**SWIZZLE.** Small beer.

"Is that thee, Jem? I thought 'twas. Well, how dost git on wi' wold 'Billygoat' ?" "Oh noohow, mayet; I shant be wi' 'en much longer, I hopes. A wants a feller to goo to plough in the aaturnoon; and all we hays vor breakfast es hes wold ornery cheese, and some swizzle that's regler rot gut, as zonr as vargess [verjuice]; and if a veller says ar word, wold Billygoat 'ill putt hes boot up alongzide on 'en sharp. I sholl be middlen glad when Middlemas comes and I can get shet on't."

**SWOTCHEL.** To walk in a swaggering, rolling, or lazy manner.

"Wold Jack swotchels along the road as if a dedn't keer where a vell down or kept upright."

## T.

*Th* is always pronounced soft, as in *thine*.

**TAAIL-ON-END.** Eager, hasty; to desire anything ardently, to set about anything impetuously.

"They be all taail-on-end vor't,—as ayger as a pig aater the wash bucket."

**TAAILENS.** Refuse corn, swept up at the tail of the "van," not saleable, and generally consumed by the farmer's household and labourers.

**TAAILZKE.** A disease in bullocks' tails.

**TACKLE.** Harness, agricultural implements; also, food or drink.

"D'ye call this treyad beer, you?" "Well, et goos vor't, mayet; but 'tes darned rum tackle to my mind."

TAFFETTY. Dainty or nice in eating; of delicate appetite.

"That maade o' mine es terbul taffetty: we can hardly git her to yet anything at all."

TAKE AATER. To be like in manner or features.

"She takes aater her mother."

TAKE VOR To be attached to, or fond of, anyone.

"He takes vor that bwoy terribly, now hes mother's dead."

TAN. To thrash, to beat.

"I'll gee thee a pretty tannen, my lady, when I comes hooam to-night."

TANG. To make a noise with a key and a fire shovel, tea tray, or similar utensil, when hoes are swarming; partly to induce them to settle—according to a popular notion, and partly to give notice to the neighbours. Also, to ring a bell; a bad taste in the month after something has been swallowed.

"The wold buttcher's bees be zwarmen: there's the wold dooman and the maade out in orched, maken a middleu tangen between 'em wi' the zifter and pot led, enough to frighten all the bees in the parish." "I don't like that cider, you; it leaves a terbul nasty tang in yer mouth aater ye got it down."

TAPE. A mole. (Almost obsolete.)

TARNEL. Much, great, very much.

"There's a tarnel gurt heap on't; a good deal moore than a waggon load."

TAYKEL. A rope and pulley for lifting weights.

TEE HOLE. The hole in a bee-hive by which the bees go in and out.

"I putt my ferrets into the wheeat rick, and in vive minutes the rats zwarmed out like bees out of a tee hole."

TEENY. Small, diminutive, tiny.

"What a little teeny mite of a pig that es! Well, that es a doll pig, and noo mistake!"

TEEREN. Walking fast, in great haste.

"Hollo Bet! where bist thee teeren to?" "I be in sich a hurry, I can't stop to tell ye; there and back agen, like a ma-no'-war's cruise."

TEMBER KEERT. To cart, or go with a team of horses for, timber.

"I zay, mayet, thee'st hay to be up sharp to-morrow mornen, and be off to Shawcombe vor the taykel; vor there'll be two teams on at tember keert all day to-morrow."

TEMBER BRITCHES. Timber breeches—a coffin.

An old man, who considered he suffered much from the unruly temper and tougue of his wife, in an interval of one of her upbraidings would remark: "Ah Sally, I shall be happy one o these days, when I sees thee gwyne up over the hill in thy tember britches ;"—and this unaffected ejaculation never failed to bring redoubled thunders ou his devoted head.

TEND. To attend, to pretend.

"My wold dooman goos out nuss tenden now, you, and makes pretty good headway wi' et." "I never tend to plaay wi' noobody: I means what I zays."

TENDER. Tinder.

"Why deary me, scores o' times avore there was any o' these lucifers about have I zet up in bed, and ben snack snacken away wi' a vlint and steel vor a quarter of an hour or moore, tryen to git a light; and then jest as I got a spark in the tender box, and putt a match too't, out 'twould goo, and I had to begin agen. 'Twas terbul tryen to anybody's temper,—specially when they happened to be in a hurry."

TERBUL. Very, great, extremely; terrible. Sometimes, when special emphasis is required, pronounced "*terråbble*."

"I was terråbble bad all last week, you; I dedn't yet sixpennorth o' vittles all the time."

"He's terbul fond of a bit o' minty cheese and a drop o' strong beer."

TEW. Weakly, tender, sickly.

"That bwoy sims terbul tew vor hes age."

THEE'ST. Thou hast; often used for "you have."

THEN. That time.

"Git there by nine o'clock, and by then they'll be ready."

THERENCE. Thence, that place.

"Come out o' therence, or else I'll be aater thee."

THERE-RIGHT (*A.S. thœrrihte*). In that place, at once, immediately.

"Pitch in there-right."—Begin at once, in the place where you now are.

THETCH. Thatch.

THICK. Intimate, very friendly.

"They be as thick as inkle weevers."

THICK or THICKED' MILK. Milk thickened with flour, and boiled.

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THILLER or THILL HORSE. The horse of a team which is in the shafts.

"What a beard thou hast got; thou hast got more hair on thy chin than Dobbin my thill-horse, has on his tail.

—*Merchant of Venice*, Act II. sc. 2.

THIRTOVER. Perverse, obstinate, contradictory.

"He's as thirtover as a mule; there's noo dooen nothen wi' 'en."

"Well Ben, how bist gotten on, you? I hears thee'st got to git out o' that plaace o' thine, right off the reel." "That's jest about the rights on't, mayet; but 'tes darned hard lines vor a wold feller like me, what ben there zoo many years. You know you, I onny got two jackasses and a nannygoat, and the parish used to paay my rent; but zunce we had that fresh relieven officer they won't doo't noo longer, zoo I got to shift vor myself. I'd half a mind to turn rusty and stop there till they mucked me out; but then, thinks I, 'tes noo good to be thirtover about it, zo I sholl turn out."

THREADLE. To string or thread.

THUMB BIT. A piece of meat eaten on a piece of bread, and so called from the thumb being placed on it.

TIDDLE. To tickle.

TIGHTISH. Pretty good, smartish, pretty well.  
"He's a tightish sort o' chap to deal wi'."

TILT. The covering of a cart.

TIMERSOME. Timid, fearful.

TIME O' DAY. To "pass the time o' day," is to salute or greet a person passing by on the road.

"I can't zay I knows much about 'en, vor I ouny jest passes the time o' day wi' 'en when I zees 'en."

TINES. The teeth of a harrow.

TIP OUT. To pour out anything.

"Gee us the puncheon, mayet, and let's tip out a drap o' beer."

TIPS AND CUES. Iron for the toes and heels of boots.

TISSICK. An intermittent, tickling cough.

"Strong beer cures the gout, the colic, and the tissick, And it is for all men the very best of physic."

—*Old Song.*

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TITCH. To touch.

"Now then, thee buttervingered wold fool, why doesn't claa hold be et?" "Thees't better doo't thyself; I beant gwyne to titch it, I don't like the looks on't."

TITCHY. Irritable, soon offended, testy.

"The wold dooman sims mortal titchy to-day."

TITTY. Small, little.

"I zay, there's a little titty cat."

TO-DO. An upshot, an affair, a disturbance.

"Here's a pretty to-do about nothen."

TO-RIGHTS. Completely, perfectly, thoroughly.

"Taailor Smith maade me a new pair o' trousers last week, and they fits to-rights, and no mistake about it." "Wold Joe Cooke was in the Barleymow, you, Zadderday night, and stripped off to fight a gipsy feller there; but the gipsy tackled 'en to-rights, and gid 'en sich a hammeren as a never had avore in his life."

TOODPOOL. A tadpole.

"The hoss pond's vull o' tooad's spawn and todpools."

TOLE. To beguile, to entice, or allure; sometimes, a relish.

“Let’s git a boosan, and tole the dog indoors, you.”—Let us get a bone, and entice the dog indoors.” “I wants a inyun or zummet, to tole down this bren cheese. — I want an onion or something, to relish this bread and cheese.

TOLL-LOLL. Tolerably, or pretty well.

TOOAD. A toad.

“ ‘Cause I wouldn’t let her run outdoors and in, and make a stable, that maade zets there pouten and zwellen like a gurt gearden toad; I han’t got patience wi’ her, I shall let into her predney.”—Because I wouldn’t let her run out of doors and in, and soil the floor with her wet boots, that maid sits there pouting and swelling like a great garden toad; I haven’t patience with her, and shall beat her presently.

TOODS MEAT. The fungus toad’s stool.

TOOK TO. To be stopped, or taken aback; to meet with a superior.

“I thought he’d be took to zomewhen or nother.”

TOPPEN. State, or condition of health.

“Well George, how dost sim to beat up ?” “Oh, toll-loll you; how bist thee ?” “ Well, I han’t ben over toppen vor a week or two, but there edden’t much the matter it [yet].”

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TOP UP. To finish a rick; to put the finishing stroke to anything.

“If we plaays in mayet, we shall top op the rick to-night.” “Wull ye hay any more, you?” “Oi, I’ll hay a little bit o’ apple pudden, jest to top op wi’”

TORE. Torn.

“There, zee what a gurt slit thee’st tore in thy smock frock.”

TOSSEL. A tassel.

TOWNSER. A contemptuous name applied to an inhabitant of a town.

TOWSE. A slight blow.

“A was pretty mouthey, zo I jest gid ‘en a towse in the head, and a hiked off sharp.”

TRENCHER. A wooden platter.

“He’s a good trencherman. —He’s a hearty eater.”

“He’s a very valiant trencherman, he hath an excellent stomach.”—*Much Ado about Nothing, Act I., s. 1.*

“Mornen, sir. I got a little hit of a passel here vor ye; a newspaper or zummet, I louz ‘tes; but I dunno where ‘tes the right one.” “Thank you. Go in and tell missus to give you some bread and cheese and beer, and I’ll look at the parcel while you are having it.”

“Thankee sir. I’ll hay the beer, but I don’t keer vor noo bren cheese; I beant much of a trencherman this mornen, vor I had a good thumbit avore I started.” “But this paper is not for me; can’t you read?” “Rade, sir! I onny wish I could; I never had noo schoolen; I can’t tell a gurt A vrom a bull’s voot; zometimes I takes up a paaper vor a minute or two, but I can’t tell where I got’n upsidown or no, ‘cepten there’s a hoss in ‘en, and then if the hoss’s ligs be uppards I thinks he ben an rolled over; but if I zees a house there wi’ the chimley downwards, then I knows I be holden the paaper upsidown.”

TRENDLE (*A.S. trendel*, circle or round body). A round shallow tub, used for cooling beer.

“Cyrcl beynge rouude lyke a trendle, after the sorte as an adder lyeth. “—*Hulvet*.

TREVET. An iron stand with three feet, for a pot or kettle.

TREYAD. Anything worthless or useless—trash, weeds.

“That 'ere ground is null o' treyad.” “Thee'st make thee-self bad, yetten sich a lot o' wold treyad. “—You will make yourself ill, eating such a lot of trash.

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TREYAPSEN. To walk in a slouching or slovenly manner; to walk about to no purpose.

“My heifers be got out o' the meead, and I ben treyapsen all round the roads vor miles, but I can't zee nothen on 'em.”

TRIG UP. To prop, or support; to put a stone behind the wheel of a cart to prevent its slipping back.

“Iss, I was bred and bornd here, and was never out o' the Island in my life it, and don't think I shall be now. When I was young, I knowed a lot o' yokes round here that had never ben zo vur as Nippert in their lifetime, nor wouldn't goo zo vur if you'd gee 'em anything. But there, they be all dead, and things be 'tirely different now vrom what they used to be. Why, I can mind the time we onny used to goo to Nippert twice or dree times in the year, wi' a carriage o' corn; and it used to take us all day to git there and back, though we used to start at daylight. We had two teams, and always putt the bells on sich times as that. We had to trig up a time or two gwine up all the shoots; and we'd make a longish stop zometimes, if ar publichouse was handy. There,—we used to think ver' near zo much on't as people do now to goo to 'Merricky.”

TROLL. To bowl a ball or a hoop; to wheel a barrow.

“Troll the wheelbarrow down into gearden.”

TROLLOP. A low, dirty woman.

“I should like to zee my Joe runnen about wi' sich a trollop as she es I”

TROUNCE. To punish anyone by legal process; also, to beat.

TROW. A trough.

“Thee bist a pretty traveller! Why, thee'st never ben a mile away vrom a pig's trow in thy life.”

TRUCK. Business, dealing.

“He's that sort o' a feller, that I don't want to hay noo truck wi' 'en.”

TRUCKLE. To trundle, to bowl.

TUCK. To tuck a rick, is to make the sides and ends smooth, by pulling out all protruding portions.

TUCK IN. To eat; also to fit the clothes round anyone in bed.

TUCKS. Tusks of a boar.

TUNNEL. A funnel for pouring fluids into a jar or cask.

**TURMETS.** Turnips. The following original notice was painted on a board, and fixed in a field of turnips, by an eccentric farmer in the West of the Island, about forty years ago. A footpath ran through the field.

“Take notice.  
All you people that passes by,  
Take a turmet if you be dry,  
And if one won't do  
You may take two;  
But if you takes three,  
I'll take thee,  
And into prison thee shalt be.”

**TURN.** A double of anything, as a turn of water, two buckets full; a turn at plough, a furrow from one end of the field to the other, and back again; also, a fright or scare.

“As I was gwyne down dark layen last night, you, I zid zummet black up agen the geat pooast, and it gid me sich a turn vor a minute.”

**TURNEN STICKS.** Long curved sticks for turning swaths of hay or corn.

**TUSSLE.** A contest or struggle.

**TUT WORK.** Work executed and paid for by the piece or lump, not by the day.

**TUTTY.** A nosegay, a bunch of flowers.

“And Primula, she takes the tutty there.”—*Caltha Poetarum*, 1559.

**TWANK.** To beat or thrash. “Twanken.”—A beating.

**TWICKERED OUT.** Tired out, very weary, done up.

“My wold dooman's ben and walked to Nippert you, and brought a tidy nitch hooam wi' her; and now aater she's bun batteren about wi' the young ones vor an hour or two, darned if she don't sim prid near twickered out.” “Oi, you, noo doubt about that, but mine's a danged sight wuss; she ben to Nippert too, and rid back in Chiverton's van, but she happened to car a wold umbereller wi' her, all patched up, and wuth about drippence, what belonged to her mother, and she's come away and left 'en in zome shop or nother, and now she's got hooam she keeps on harpen about the wold thing, there's noo biden in doors long wi' her; she's wuss than a cat what's lost her kittens. She wouldn't hay noo tay, and all I can git out on her es 'Oh dear, dear, onny to think I should a lost my poor dear wold mother's umbereller, what she had for over thirty year, I wouldn't a lost 'en vor fifty poun, noobody knows the vally I putt upon 'en but myself; and I'll be bound I shan't hear the last out for the next zix weeks,”

**TWIDDLE.** To whistle ; also, to trifle, to be busy about nothing.

“I heerd the robins twiddlen in copse, and that's a sign o' raain.” “The wold dooman zets in the corner o' the winder, twiddlen about wi' her knitten all day long.”

**TWITTER.** To tremble, to lie agitated.

“It upset me zoo, I be all of a twitter.”

## U.

UNBELIEVUN. Careless, heedless.

"That bwoy us as unbelievun as can be, 'tes noo use to zay nothen too'n."

UNBEKNOWN. Unknown.

"If a ded do anything, 'twas unbeknown to me."

UNDERGROUND. Short, thickset, undergrown.

"He's a miserable little underground sort o' feller."

UPALONG. Forwards, to go to a place.

"Well, I louz I shell zee about gwyne upalong, you."

UP ON END. Perpendicular, upright.

"Rare the ladder up on end you, wull'ee."

UPPEN-STOCK. A horse block, a block fixed in the ground with steps for mounting a horse.

UNTIP. To overset.

"Hello you! whoever would a thought o' zeein' thee here. How dost sim to snivel" " Oh noohow; I got the roomatics mortal bad. I got uptipped last week—keert and all—into deetch; and I had to bide there in the swile biggest part of a nower, till wold Badger come along and hauled me out on't. I'd *had* a drap, I'll own, but not enough to keep the roomatics out o' my ligs."

UPZIDES WI'. Even with, a match for, tit for tat.

"I can't be upzides wi' 'en noohow." "I'll be upzides wi' ye, bimeby, my nabs."

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## V.

In pronunciation, *V* is often substituted for *F*, especially in words beginning with the latter letter.

VAAIL. Progress, dispatch.

"You don't sim to make much vaail wi' your job, Tom."

VAAY. To work well, to succeed, to go smoothly.

"Things don't sim to vaay noohow to-day, to my mind."

VAIRN. Fern.

VAEG. A furious passion, a paroxysm of anger.

"He got into sich a vaeg about it."

VALL IN WI'. To coincide, to agree with; also, to meet with.

"I shall vail in wi' et zometime or nother."—I shall meet with it sometime or other.

VALL OUT. To quarrel.

VAN. A machine for winnowing corn; also, to shake or agitate anything, so as to cause a current of air.

“Dont’ee keep on vannen the clothes zoo.”

YARE OUT. To plough the first furrows of the different “lands “ or “ ridges” of a field.

YANK, or YANK OUT. To clean, or clean out.

“Get the dung prong, mayet, and let’s varm out the steyabul.’

VANNER HAWK. The kestrel.

VENOM. Spite, ill temper,

“He spit hes venom at me. “—He vented his ill-temper on me.

VETCH. To fetch.

VETTERLOCK. The fetlock.

VINNID (*A.S. fynig*). Mouldy.

“I be terbul fond o’ a bit o’ blue vinnid cheese.”

VIRE PAN. A fire shovel.

“I had a ham rasher in a plaet on the fender in front o’ the vire, and I jest turned round to take zummet out o’ cupboard, when in slips varmer Chipp’s wold sheep dog and fixes my rasher. I claaed up the vire pan and let drave at ‘en, and jest kitched ‘en a wipe in the ribs; but ‘twas noo use, the rasher was down the keckhorn on ‘en ver’ near avore I looked round.”

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VIRE SPANNEL. A dog given to lying before the fire.

VITTEN. Proper, fitting.

VLEE. A flea, or a fly.

VLESH VLEE. The blow fly (*musca vomitoria*).

VLITTERS. Small pancakes, fritters; also, tatters or rags.

“My smock frock is tore all in vlitters.”

VLUCKER. To flutter, to fly about.

VLUX. To fly at and strike with the wings; as a hen with chickens, or sitting, will fly at an intruder.

“Don’t goo in there; the wold hin’s zetten, and she’ll vlux ye if ye don’t look out.”

YOKES. Folks, people.

VOLLEY. To follow.

“What a gurt zote thing thee bist; what’s keep on volleyen that maade about vor, grinnen like a dog at a rid hot coulter?”

VOOLD. An enclosure in a field for sbeep, a fold; also, a foal.

YORE HOSS. The first or leading horse of a team.

"He's got the yore hoss by the head all right, I louz. "—He is master of the situation—knows what he is about—has the affair well in hand.

VORERIGHT. Blundering, headstrong, regardless of consequences.

"Aye, they *ded* use to do a lot o' smugglens about here fifty or sixty year ago, when I was a bwoy. I've heerd my father zay, one time dree or vower on 'em, wi' tubs and bags of tay, got ver' near took to by the Custom House officers, but they managed to git off the shore and into the churchyard at Niton; but zome o' the officers had slipped round another road, and prid near penned 'em in all zides. They thought 'twas a gooser wi' 'em, but one on 'em, a terbul voreright feller, called Mussel, zays: 'Come on, mayets, I be darned if I won't be upzides wi' they fellers'; zoo they prised up the stooan on one o' they gurt high brick tombs there es there, and got inside, tubs and all, and bid quiet. Cooase the officers lost 'em, and couldn't think where the deuce they was gone to, and aater searchen about a bit they went away. Zoon aaterwards, jest as 'twas gitten daylight, my father was gwyne droo the churchyard to goo to work, when all at

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once he zees the stooan top o' one o' the tombs begin to move. He stopped short, and stared wi' all the eyes he'd got, when up goos the stooan higher, and a man's faace peeps out at one corner, and aays: 'I say, mayet, can ye tell me what time 'tes?' I've heerd father say hes hear lifted hes hat clane off hes head; a couldn't move, but stood there staren like a stuck pig; but when Mussel axed 'en what time 'twas, he roared out, and run back prid near frightened to death. He run into the vust house a come to, and says to the people: Whatever wull become on us! the dead vokes in the churchyard be gitten out o' their graaves.' He was reglar terrified, and it gid 'en sich a turn be couldn't goo to work that day. Zometime aaterwards he vound out the rights on't, and he and Mussel and t'otbers had many a laugh about it."

VORERUNNER. An originator or beginner, an instigator.

"They two chaps was quiet enough till wold Jack must needs goo and zet 'em on, and now they be got into a pretty hobble. He was the vorerunner on't all."

VRAIL. A flail.

"I most git a new zwingel zomewhere vor my vail."

VRITH. Cat underwood.

"We must be off down in copse vust thing to-morrow mornen mayet, vor a load o' vrith."

VROAR. Frozen.

VULL BUTT. At full speed; also, suddenly.

"Jest as I turned the corner, I met her vull butt."— "Just as I turned the corner, I met her suddenly face to face." Wold varmer Barton went out one sluttish aaternoon to vetch the cows, and drove 'em hooam into the backside, but a forgot to shet the geat aater'n, and goos indoors, and zets down by the vire. The cows and heifers zoon vound the geat was open, and predney out they goos all tail-o'-end, and went blaren vull butt all down the layen agen. Hes daughter was upstairs tittivaten herself longside the winder, and zid the cows run out, zo she zings out to her mother : ' Mother, where's father? The cows he all got out o' the backside, and gone to the devil, I thinks. Sholl I goo aater 'em?' 'Noa,' zed her mother, 'thee bide quiet, and I'll tell your father to goo, he's got hes spats on.'

VURDER. Farther.

“I most set down and hay a bit of a spell avore I can goo any vurder.”

VUZ OR VUZZEN (*A.S.fyrsas*). Purse

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VUZ-BRAKR. Land where furze is growing.

“Last zummer, you, I was at work in varmer Morris’s vuz-brake cutten a vew faggots, when all of a sudden a adder pops up and queals round my leg. I had my liggens on, zoo I jest slips my hook down and cuts my nabs in two, and went on work. Bimeby I could hear zomethin keep on cheep, cheep, like a young bird, zoo I stops a minute and went to zee what ‘twas. I’m darned if that adder I cut in two wudden’t there alive, and there was two moore come to look aater’n, and ‘twas they that was maken the kind o’ chirpen I heerd. I thought to myself I must putt a stop to these antics, zoo I zet to work and settled the hash o’ the lot.”

VUZ-CHIPPER. The whin-chat, or mountain finch.

VUZ-OWL. An offensive smelling insect; a kind of bug, of the *cimicidæ* family.

## W.

WAD. A double wisp of hay or straw.

WAITHE. Weak, languid, exhausted.

WAG (*A.S. wegan*). To move or stir, to walk.

“I be zoo tired I can hardly wag.”

“I’ll work wi’ my broad axe as long as I can wag.”

—*Old Song.*

WANT. A mole. “Want ketcher.”—A mole catcher.

WANTY. A chain or girth attached to the shafts of a cart or waggon, and passing under the horse’s belly.

WARM. To beat or thrash.

“I’ll gee thee a good warmen when I ketches thee.”

WAR’NT. To warrant.

“I zay mayet, if thee keeps tunnen the beer into thee like that, thee’st be swipey avore nammet time.”—“I’ll war’nt it you.”

“My wold granfer used to live at Gatcombe, and plaayed the clarinet, or hobwoy, or zummet hike it in church; he used to plaay, and the clark and two or dree more used to zing, and that was all the music they had. Wold Dr. Wusley [Worsley] I thinks was paason then, and lived at Pidford, and Squire Campbell or zomebody or nother lived at Gatcombe gurt house. Zunday mornens the Squire used to goo to church, and the Doctor always used to waait vor’n, and never maade a start till he was in hes zetten. I’ve heerd the wold man tell the story many a time. One Zunday Dr. Wusley wudden’t at hooam, and a fresh paason come to do duty. Of course, he wudden’t up to the ins and outs on’t, and when the bell stopped he pitched off direckly wi’ ‘When the wicked man’—but the clark jumped up and zays, ‘Stop a bit zur, he edden’t come in it!’ It maacle the paason stare a bit, I’ll war’nt it.”

WARNUT. A walnut.

WARP. To cast a foal.

“My mare’s warped her vould.”

WASHTUB. A tub to contain wash, *i.e.*, pot-liquor and kitchen refuse for pigs.

WATER-GEAL. A second or double rainbow appearing above the first.

WATSHED. Wet in the feet, wetshod.

“Be got ar bit watshed, you, gwyne athirt the brook?”

“For weet-shoed thei gone.” —*Piers Plowman*.

WEATH. Flexible, pliant, supple.

WEEAZE. A wad, or wisp of hay or straw.

“There’s noo moore in ‘en than there es in a wet weeaze.”

WI’ ’EN. With him. “Wi’ ’er.”—With her. “Wi’ ’t.”— With it. (The *i* pronounced as *ee*.)

WELT. To beat severely.

“I’ll gee thee sich a welten as thee’st never had in thee life, if thee doesn’t mind what I tells thee.”

WEX. Wax.

“Od zooks I’ve lost my wex,

Whatever es become on’t!

‘Tes enough to make a man vex,

Here lays a leetle crumb on’t.”

—*Old Song*.

WEYBAN. Thin.

WHIPPENCE. A spreader, or bar, for yoking two or more horses to a plough or harrow.

WHIPSWHILE. Now and again, frequently.

“I dunno what there med be between ‘em, but he’s there every whipswhile.”

WHISTERSNIFF. A slap, a backhanded blow.

“The wold dooman gid me sich a whistersniff in the chops.”

WHITE RICE. The white beam, *pyrus aria*.

WHITE WOOD. The lime tree.

WHOP. Weight, force; also, a heavy blow.

“Tee miserable slippery this mornen: I hadn’t got out doors half a minute, avore down I come wi’ sich a whop, right on my zide, I thought I had broke my yarm.”

WEUP. A word used to tell horses to stop.

“Hoot, touch up Pedlar! Knock down Captain! Joit off Drummer! Whup! whup! whup  
Thirty years ago an old labourer when at plough used to make the field ring with the above rhythmic ejaculations, delivered in stentorian tones that could be heard at least a quarter of a mile off; and so often, that all the ploughboys in the neighbourhood had them by heart, and frequently shouted them in the hearing, and to the annoyance, of their original utterer.

WIGGLE. To twist about, to wriggle, to move continually.

WICKER. To neigh, or whinny, as a horse.

WILLEY (A.S. *wilie*). A large basket for carrying chaff, &c.

WIM. To winnow.

WIMSHEET. A large piece of sail cloth, or a sail, used in barns; a winnowing sheet.

WINDY. Wheedling, deceitful, insinuating.

“That wold jobber wanted to git they pigs out o’ me terbul bad, and wudden’t he jest about windy over it; but ‘twas noo good, I could zee droo it, he was too flitch by half.”

WITH. A twisted wand of willow or hazel, used to bind faggots, &c.

WITHOUT. Unless, except.

“I shan’t goo without he goos too.”

WITHY. The willow; various species of *salix*.

WITHYBED. A plantation of withies, or ground where withies are growing.

“When I was a youngish chap I was at work in a withybed t’other zide o’ Aaton out at Freshwater, rather aearly in the mornen, and I zid a wold man lerruppen along the road, and every now and ten stoppen and glaren all round as if a couldn’t make out where a was got to. Predney a come up auverright me, and makes a stop, and a zays, ‘Hollo mayet, what plaace do ye call this?’ I thought a was about half sprung, zo I zed

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too’n, ‘This plaace is a withybed, as ver as I knows.’ ‘My eyes,’ zays the wold feller, ‘I can’t maake noo fist on’t at all, that’s the saame neyam as they calls it in the Isle o’ Wight.’ Hearsen this, maade *me* open my eyes pretty wide vor a minute. ‘Well, drat thee,’ I zays too’n, ‘Where dust think thee hist then?’ ‘Where I be,’ a zed, ‘why this es France, edden’t it?’ ‘Why, ye zoatwold man,’ I zays, ‘thee bist out on’t all together, this is Freshwater.’ ‘If this edden’t the head goo of all I ever zid in my life,’ zays the wold feller, ‘if there edden’t a plaace called the saame in the Island, and ‘tes jest sich a plaace as this es.’ I couldn’t stand noo moore of his wold zoat foolishness, I got that mad w’in. ‘Ye muddle headed wold fool,’ I zays too’n, ‘thee most be drunk or craazy; and I beleeves thee knows thee way about as well as I do, vor I can tell by thee talk thee bist a Isle o’ Wighter, and I’ve zid thee avore to day zomewhere; goo long hooam and putt thee head in a bag till thee gits sober, or else thees’t zoon vind thyself in Bedlam.’ ‘I was never zoo putt to in my life, I can’t make it out at all,’ a zed, and on a went. I was talken about the wold fool a vew days aaterwards, and I heerd a was wold Manny Young, a kind o’ feller that used to do anything, and led about in lotes and barns where a could, all over the Island. The night avore I zid ‘en, he’d ben helpen to land zome tubs at Totland Bay, and got too much liquor into’n, and slept in a booot on the shore aater they’d clewed up, till mornen. When a turned out at daylight, zome on’ em toold ‘en they’d shoved off and got back agen in the night while he was asleep, and was jest now landed in France. The wold man zed he was never there avore, and he *should* like above everything now a *was* there to hay a bit

of a walk round jest to zee the country. Zoo a swotcheld off on the road to Freshwater, and avore a got vur, he thought he'd zid a plaace terbul much like it zomewhere; zoo a axed everybody a met (and 'twudden't many at that time o' the mornen) where a was; but mooast on 'em onny laughed at 'en, so the vurder a went the more a got hoped up over it; but aater a left me and got on ver near to Wellow, a vound out the rights on't, and that a was in the Island aater all."

WOBBLE. To move from side to side unevenly, to shake or oscillate.

WOLD. Old. A word much used as a prefix in conversation, as the "Wold man," "Wold dooman," "Wold farmer Smith," "Wold cobbler Coombes," &c.

WOLLUP To beat or thrash.

WOODQUEST. A wood-pigeon. (Almost obsolete.)

WOOT. Will you? "Wooten't."—Will you not?

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WOPSE. A wasp. "Wopses."—Wasps.

"Come on chaps, let's goo and zwarm this wopses' nest"  
To *zwarm* a "wopses" nest—i.e., to burn out or destroy one—is a serious undertaking among boys; and the operation being attended with some risk and danger, those foremost in the affair are regarded as heroes by their fellows.

WORDLE. The world.

"I couldn't do sich a thing vor the wordle."

WRENCH. To sprain.

"I beleeve I've wrenched my leg, jumpen off the mow."

WROPPED. Creased, rumped.

"My shirt front es all wropped up like a dish clout."

WURRET. To fret, to plague, or tease.

"She wurrets herself about it terbul." "How they vlees do wurret the dog, to be sure!

WURT. A wart.

"What a crop of wurts thee *hast got* on thee hands Bob!  
Now, if you'll onny goo down to wold taailor Young, and stand 'en a pint, he'll charm 'em all away in a day or two."

WUTS. Oats. Wut ben."—The bin in which oats are kept for the horses in a stable.

"I zay, mayet, let's hay a geeam o' mariners, there is a boord cut out on the led of the wut ben."

WUZBIRD. A term of reproach, usually applied to boys only; of no definite meaning, but probably a corruption of *whore's bird*.

"Come out o' that, ye young wuzbird, or I'll git a stick and prid near cut ye in two."

## Y.

YELLOW-BWOYS. Sovereigns, or guineas.

“Wold Dannel Keach was a regler lantern jaad wold bachelor, and I thinks he haated the very sight o’ childern. He was in varmer Barton’s one time hayen a pipe and a glass o’ grog wi’ ‘em, and they had there dree or vower as fine looken bwoys grown up as you could zee in a day’s march. As they was zetten by the vire, missus, woman-like, zays to Dannel,

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‘Shouldn’t you like, Mister Keach, to hay sich a lot of bwoys as we got, zetten round your chimley at hooam?’ ‘Noa,’ zed Dannel, ‘that’s jest what I *shouldn’t* like; I’d zooner hay dree or vower yallow-bwoys in *my* pocket any time than all the lot on ‘em.’ Missus couldn’t stand Dannel aater that.”

YELLOW-CALL (sometimes YELLOW-CUP). The crow’s foot, *Ranunculus arvensis*. The “Tufted crow-toe” of Milton: *Lycidas*.

YELLOW-JANDERS. The jaundice.

YAP. To yelp, or bark like a dog.

“I could hear the dog keep on yap, yappen.”

YARM. The arm.

YENDER. Yonder.

“Casn’t zee that tree out yender ?“

YEPPER: An apron.

“Thee gurt zote mud, thee bist onny fit to be tied to thee grammer’s yeppern string.”

“I zay, Jim, jest look’ee, here’s a lot o’ wold paainters comen along the road, wi’ zome wold dooman’s yepperns on.”

YET. To eat; ate, or eaten.

“I han’t got a mossel o’ bread in house: ‘twas all yet up at dinnertime.”

An old labourer of the writer’s acquaintance was terribly puzzled with the word *yet*. He had joined the “Bryanites,” and for the first time in his life took to reading the Bible. He began of course at the beginning, and in due time arrived at Genesis, chap. xlv., and the last verse, containing the joyful exclamation of the patriarch Jacob, on his being satisfied that his long lost son Joseph was alive and well. “Joseph my son is *yet* alive, I will go and see him before I die.” “Now,” argued the old man, “I always ben toold, and I bleeves it, that the Bible es true. But there’s a hatch zomewhere in this story, vor however could wold Jacob zee hes son Joseph if hee’d ben *yet alive*? If hee’d ben *yet* up alive, or dead, how could there be any on ‘en left vor his father to zee? That’s what I wants to know.” It was only after some time and trouble spent in copious explanation of the totally different significations of *yet* and *eat*, that the old man pronounced himself fully satisfied; but this was the only difficult passage he met with in the whole of the Pentateuch.

YO. An ewe.

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YOPPUL. Useless talk, incessant gabble.

“Dedn’t the wold dooman yoppul at us!”

"It used to be a terbul out-o'-the-way plaace here by St. Cattern's, and zome rum fellers used to live here years agoo, avore I can mind, but I've heerd tell on 'em a good many times. Wold Dove (he or his brother used to keep the Star at Niton years agoo), was a miserable ignorant, voreright sort o' feller, and when a got woldish a'd zet mumchanced in the chimley corner vor half a day together; but if anybody ded git or a word or two out on 'en, 'twas zummet to the pwynt, pend upon't. He was mortal bad vor a long time, and they thought he'd zoon slip his wind; zoo they got the paason to come and zee what he could make on 'en. Zo the paason come and begun talken too'n, but the wold man zet and zed nothen for zome time. Predney the paason axed 'en, 'Do ye know who maade ye?' Then wold Dove opened his jaas and zays, 'Noa, I dunno as I do, dost thee?' 'Iss,' zed the paason, 'I do—God Almighty; don't ye bleeve it?' 'I beant nooway sarten about it,' zays wold Dove, 'vor all I got to goo by is what I ben toold about it, and vokes always zays ye most never bleeve half o' what ye hears; zoo shet up and don't let me hay noo moore o' yer yoppul.' 'Come here Jin,' a zung out to hes wife, 'I be got as hungerd as a hoss; cut us off a bit o' that choppekin ye bwiled yesterday, wull'ee.'"

YOU. A word much used in familiar talk, as "I zay, you, I lowz 'twull raain avore long." "Oi, you, zoo do I." "What time is it, you?" "What's think o' that you?" &c.

YOURN. Yours.

"If that rake edden't yourn, it most be ourn."

YOWL. To yelp, or howl like a dog.

## Z.

In the pronunciation of many words beginning with S and Z the initial letters are often interchanged, as *zence* for *sence*; *sim* or *zim*, for *seem*; *sich* or *zich*, for *such*; *zay* or *say*, for *sea*; *sweal* or *zweal*, to *scorch*; &c.

ZAAMER. To loiter, to saunter, to walk in a lazy manner.

"I expected 'en here jest aater dinner, but a dedn't come; but a zaamerd downalong about dree o'clock."

ZAW. A saw; or to saw

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ZEED-LIP. A box to contain corn for sowing, suspended by a strap from the sower's shoulder.

ZEE'N. See him. ZEE'T. See it.

"Casn't zee't, you?" "Noa, I can't zee ar one here."

ZET AT. To abuse, to scold, or rate soundly.

ZET OFF. To start, to go; also, to explode gunpowder.

ZET OUT. An upshot, a disturbance; also, a feast or merrymaking.

"Here's a pretty zet out! The pump's all vroze up, and I can't get a drap o'water." "I zay you, wold Bob Cook's maade es run away long wi' a sojer, and there's the deuce of a zet out about it." "We be gwyne to hay a anniversary at our chapel, Whitmonday. There'll be plenty of tay and cake about, and a fine zet out I louz."

ZET UP. To be insubordinate or refractory; also, to stand the pins up at the game of "Four corners," or skittles.

The following original epistle, which exemplifies the use of “Zet up,” was sent by an Island churchwarden, who was also a brewer or publican, to his parish overseer in 1792:—

“To Mister —

“As I be suppaned to goo to Lunnon as a witnes in the King's name, I desier you not to releave no parpers with the parrish munny without thare passes, and if they zets up about it, call in the cunstable direckly. But if anny of our own poor applies to you, tell em if they drinks no tay, and keeps no doggs for poachen, I wont forgit em next Crismas.—Yours &c., —.“

**ZETTEN DOWN.** To give anyone a good “zetten down,” is to rebuke them very sharply, or to teach them their place.

**ZIDELLEN.** Sloping, slanting, the sloping side of a hill.

**ZIDLE.** To edge, to squeeze, or sneak in.

“He zidled in jest now, and zet hisself down in the corner, looken rather queer.”

**ZIFTER PAN.** A fire shovel.

**ZINDERS.** Cinders.

**ZIPPET (sometimes SIPPET).** A small sop or toast.

**ZIVE (A.S. *sithe*).** A scythe.

**ZIVE-SNEAD.** The pole or handle of a scythe.

“I went to Whittle t’other night you, to the blacksmith’s,

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to git the ring fitted to my zive-snead, and while the job was dooen I went across the road vor a bit, and heerd the paason gee a lecter ‘bout moral improvement.” “Well, what ded’sst think on’t?” “Oh, ‘twas all very well as vur as I knows.” “Oi you, we all knows that ‘*marl do*’ improve the ground wonderful.”

**ZOMEWEEN.** Some time, any time.

**ZOOL.** A stake or shore, driven into the ground, to which the hurdles in a sheepfold are fastened.

**ZOOZAY.** For the occasion, for the sake of talking.

“I don’t take the least notice of what that wold dooman talks about, she only doos it vor a zoozay. There’s no bottom in her.”

**ZOTE or ZOAT.** Silly, soft, foolish. (*Spanish—zote*) an ignorant or lazy person.

“What a gurt zote thing thee bist.”

**ZOTEY.** An idiot, a fool.

**ZULL (A.S. *syl*).** A plough.

“Come on zotey, and take hold o’ the zull, while I takes up a hole or two.”

**ZUMMER FRECKLED.** Spots on the face caused by the heat of the sun.

ZUNCE. Since.

"I han't a zid nothen on 'en zunce dinnertime."

ZWALLEY. To swallow; also, to believe, or give credit to.

"I zay varmer, d'ye think we be gwyne to hay another 'lection avore the year's out?" "I'm sure I can't zay; I hears a tanel deal o' talk about politics and 'lections, but I don't zwalley it all, and 'twull make very little difference to any on us here, let it be how 'twull" "Well I don't zee why we should trouble ourselves over it; one time we *ded* use to git a dinner, and plenty o' grog aaterwards, but there edden't a mote nor drap o' nothen to be got now, and I nooways zees the fun o' gwyne two or dree mile to vote ona leer stummick." "Oi you, they be all vor their own ends, and to my mind 'tes zummet anewse like this wi' the Liberals and Tories, booath on 'em. My weld zow got a strain o' ten pigs, and they can't all zuck at once, ver one thing she han't get teats enough, and bezides there edden't room vor 'em all together, zoo I shets vour or vive on'em out o' the sty while t'others be zucken, and they that be shet out keeps on runnen round and squeeken, and kicks up a mortal to do till they be let in agen, and then they be quiet enough, I warn't it." "Haw,

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haw, that's jest about the rights on't, and how they *do* goo on; I can't rade in noo sense myzelf, but missus rades the paaper to me inevenens, and vrom what I can make on't, these Conservatives sims to be about the best on 'em, zoo I sholl gee 'em a vote next time, but I always *have* toted vor the Tories up to now."

ZWARM. To swarm, as bees; also, to beat or thrash.

"Wold .Joe rined off, and zwarmed into'n like one o'clock."

"If thee dosn't shet up thy mouth, I'll swarm into thee in a minute or two."

ZWAUTH (A.S. *swæthe*). A layer or row of grass or corn, after being cut down by a scythe.

ZWIFTER. Part of the tackling that fastens a load of timber to the waggon.

ZWIMMER. A thin, circular pudding, made of flour and water, put into the pot while the other contents are cooking, and being soon ready, is taken out, cut open, buttered, and eaten for lunch.

"Twun't be dinnertime avore one o'clock, and I sims terbul leer; zo let's hay a zwimmer, missus."

ZWINGEL. The part of the flail which falls upon the corn in threshing, fastened to the "handstaff" by a wooden swivel and strips of raw hide.

ZWIVETTY. Giddy; feeling of vertigo, or swimming in the head.







